

brite*

Volunteers

NOVEMBER

This month's
BIBLICAL Theme

*God is greater
than anything.*

I was never good at math. I still am not good at math. But in math, there are three ways to measure something: less than, equal to and greater than. The largest number is always greater than all the others. I am rarely tempted to think that God is less than me, but I'm often tempted to believe He is equal to me. I go through life thinking that I have this with God's help, and it's just not true.

God has me, holds me and fights for me. Israel often forgot the mercy and justice of our perfect God. In the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal, we see God as greater than every false hope. In the story of Jonah, we see God's mercy far greater than Jonah's desire for judgment.

The basis for our comfort and confidence is His greatness. What a kind reminder this month of how great our God is.

-Sam Luce childdiscipleship.com

THROUGHOUT THE MONTH WE WILL BE LEARNING...

WEEK 1

Elijah and Mt. Carmel

(1 Kings 18:16-45)

Brite Idea: The Lord is the one true God.

WEEK 2

Jonah

(Jonah 1-4)

Brite Idea: God gives grace.

WEEK 3

Isaiah's Call

(Isaiah 6)

Brite Idea: God is holy.

WEEK 4

The Fiery Furnace

(Daniel 3)

Brite Idea: Only God is worthy of worship.

WEEK 5

The Exiles Return

(Ezra 1-3; 7; Nehemiah 1-2)

Brite Idea: God works through His people.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised.

(PSALM 145:3)



Preschool PERSPECTIVES

THIS MONTH'S LEADER TRAINING TOPIC IS: LEADING WITH CARE

Preschoolers are learning how to handle big emotions and figure out what to do in different situations. Sometimes this leads to behavior that needs gentle redirection. Redirecting behavior helps kids understand what to do, see how their choices affect others and experience God's love in everyday moments. Here are some practical ways to redirect.

REDIRECT WITH HUMOR:

Laughter is a powerful tool for helping preschoolers change course without shame. Humor lightens the moment, captures attention and makes redirection feel safe and positive. When used intentionally, it turns potential tension into connection.

1. **Use funny voices or silly gestures.** A playful "penguin waddle to the rug!" can shift focus immediately and spark joy in following directions.
2. **Turn misbehavior into a teachable moment.** Example: "Uh-oh, we don't throw toys at each other. Let's share, and each pick a toy to play with and have fun!" Playful phrasing helps kids recognize the right behavior without feeling corrected harshly.
3. **Keep it gentle and inclusive.** The goal is to redirect, not embarrass. A shared laugh invites everyone back into unity and grace.
4. **Model joy in obedience.** Jesus often used stories and playful illustrations to engage others, teaching truth with a smile. When kids see you enjoying the process, they learn that following God's ways is both good and delightful.

FOCUS ON RHYTHM AND ROUTINE:

Preschoolers thrive when they know what comes next. Consistent routines reduce frustration by preventing misbehavior and giving kids a sense of safety.

1. **Keep daily patterns predictable.** Use songs, claps or visual cues to signal transitions so kids know what's coming next. A cheerful clean-up song or a rhythmic countdown can turn potential chaos into order.
2. **Give gentle warnings before transitions.** "Five more minutes of play, then clean-up time!" helps kids prepare emotionally and physically to shift from one activity to another.
3. **Celebrate routine success.** Notice when kids follow the routine well and say things like "You listened so well when it was time to line up!" Recognition reinforces healthy habits and builds confidence.
4. **Connect to God's order.** Just as God created the world with rhythm (day and night, work and rest), routines bring peace and structure that reflect His good design!

Preschool PERSPECTIVES

WORDING MATTERS:

In preschool classrooms, the way we talk about rules matters more than we often realize.

1. **Avoid negative phrasing.** Young kids are still learning language and self-control. Saying “No hitting” or “Don’t run” can backfire because their brains often focus on the behavior you’re trying to stop. For example, “Don’t run” can make a kid think “Run!” instead of “Walk inside.”
2. **State expectations positively.** Use phrases like “I can use gentle hands and feet” or “I walk inside the space.” Positive rules tell kids exactly what to do, giving clear, actionable guidance instead of only limits.
3. **Consider child development.** Preschoolers respond better to instructions they can follow because their self-regulation skills are still developing.
4. **Reflect God’s truth.** Positive phrasing models what is good, kind and right. It helps preschoolers internalize healthy behaviors and creates a classroom environment that reflects both order and grace.

USE GENTLE AND IMMEDIATE GUIDANCE:

Preschoolers often need help in the moment, not later. Immediate, gentle guidance teaches kids what to do instead of only pointing out what they did wrong.

1. **Act quickly and stay calm.** A gentle reminder such as “Feet stay on the floor” or “Use gentle hands” works best when the misbehavior happens. Your calm presence communicates care and sets the stage for safety.
2. **Guide kids as needed.** Gently showing a kid how to place a puzzle piece or carry a toy correctly helps them understand through action. Physical guidance combined with words reinforces learning and keeps kids engaged.
3. **Reinforce with encouragement.** Pair correction with positive phrases like “Let’s try that again together” or “I see you are working hard to listen.”
4. **Reflect God’s patience.** Immediate guidance models grace, teaches kids how to respond to correction and shows them how love can guide behavior.

OFFER CHOICES:

Preschoolers often act out when they feel powerless or out of control. Give a preschooler a sense of control by offering choices. This encourages independence, teaches decision-making and reduces power struggles.

1. **Keep choices limited.** Provide two clear options such as “Do you want to sit on the red chair or the blue chair?” Limiting options helps kids make decisions without becoming overwhelmed.
2. **Make both options acceptable.** Each choice should be one that works within the classroom rules so kids can exercise control while the environment stays safe and orderly.
3. **Connect choices to God’s truth.** Explain that making good choices is part of following God’s guidance and showing love to others. You might say, “God wants us to share and help our friends, so let’s choose something that shows kindness.”
4. **Stay calm and consistent.** Kids build trust when leaders follow through, maintain clear boundaries and respond to choices with patience. Over time, offering choices helps kids grow in confidence in understanding God’s design for their decision-making.

brite* Ministry LEADERS

NOVEMBER

THIS MONTH'S ATTRIBUTE OF GOD IS: *God is greater than anything.*

I was never good at math. I still am not good at math. But in math, there are three ways to measure something: less than, equal to and greater than. The largest number is always greater than all the others. I am rarely tempted to think that God is less than me, but I'm often tempted to believe He is equal to me. I go through life thinking that I have this with God's help, and it's just not true.

God has me, holds me and fights for me. Israel often forgot the mercy and justice of our perfect God. In the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal, we see God as greater than every false hope. In the story of Jonah, we see God's mercy far greater than Jonah's desire for judgment.

The basis for our comfort and confidence is His greatness. What a kind reminder this month of how great our God is.

-Sam Luce childdiscipleship.com



THIS MONTH'S UNIT THEME IS: *Beyond*

Space stretches farther than we can travel. It's filled with stars, planets and endless wonder, but God is beyond even that! Through our stories this month, kids will see that God's power, mercy and holiness go beyond every fear, mistake or obstacle. God is beyond all creation, all limits and anything we could ever face!

Check out our Pinterest page for decorating ideas:

<https://www.pinterest.com/britecurriculum/beyond>

BRITE in Action

This month, as we learn that God is greater than anything, invite families to look beyond their own communities and care for the nations. Host a "Beyond Our City" missions night where families come together to support missionaries or global ministries that your church partners with. Set up stations where families can write encouragement letters, draw pictures for missionary kids and assemble small care packages with simple treats. Display a large world map so kids can see exactly where their support is going, reminding them that God's power and love reach far beyond what we can see. Talk about how Elijah, Jonah, Isaiah and Daniel all show us that God reveals Himself to the nations. Close by praying together for the people in that country to know that the Lord is the one true God.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION:

Thank your team this month for serving in a way that truly goes beyond! Print the attached cards and pair each one with a MILKY WAY® or MARS bar® for a fun, space-themed touch. Simply tape or staple the candy wrapper to the card for an easy, affordable gift that feels thoughtful and on theme. As you hand them out, take a moment to remind your volunteers that their faithfulness launches kids toward lasting faith in Jesus. Their love for God shines brighter and farther than they may ever see.