

brite*

Volunteers

OCTOBER

This month's
BIBLICAL Theme

God never fails.



Whenever I do object lessons or teach kids, I always have a plan A, a plan B, and a plan C because how kids respond is unpredictable. God is so different from you and from me. He doesn't need backup plans because His plan, His love, and His nature never change and never fail. So many kids have felt the sting of disappointment. From the loss of friends and a favorite pet to broken homes and the constant reminder on the news that our world is falling apart in so many ways.

What we need to remind our kids this month is how, in the book of Judges, people failed God and each other, but God never failed them. And Jesus never fails us. Even when things look bleak because of the sinful nature and sinful men, we have a sure and certain hope anchored in an unfailing God. (Hebrews 6:19)

-Sam Luce childdiscipleship.com

THROUGHOUT THE MONTH WE WILL BE LEARNING...

WEEK
1

The Sun Stood Still

(Joshua 10, 13)

Brite Idea: God does what He says.

WEEK
2

Deborah Leads

(Judges 4-5)

Brite Idea: God is victorious.

WEEK
3

Hannah and Samuel

(1 Samuel 1-3)

Brite Idea: God cares about us.

WEEK
4

David and Jonathan

(1 Samuel 20)

Brite Idea: God's plan comes first.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

For nothing will be impossible with God.

(LUKE 1:37)



Preschool PERSPECTIVES

THIS MONTH'S LEADER TRAINING TOPIC IS: CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Classroom management is one of the most important tools for a preschool ministry leader. It creates a safe, structured and loving environment where kids can learn, grow and experience God's love.

CONNECT BEFORE YOU CORRECT:

Preschoolers will shout during circle time, throw toys or push their friends. In those moments, it's tempting to jump straight to correction. But one of the most powerful tools you can use is connection. Before a kid can listen, they need to feel seen. Connection communicates: *You are safe. You are loved. You belong here.* And out of that secure connection, correction can take root.

1. **Kneel to their level.** Looking eye to eye shows a kid that you value them, even in a tough moment.
2. **Say their name.** Kids respond best when they know you see them as more than their behavior.
3. **Make eye contact.** Gentle, steady attention invites trust and calms emotions.
4. **Offer a gentle touch.** A hand on the shoulder or a hug (if welcomed) communicates safety and care.

Jesus connected with people before calling them to change. He invited, welcomed and loved. When we follow His example, correction becomes shepherding, discipline becomes discipleship and classroom management becomes true ministry.

KEEP IT SHORT AND SWEET:

Jesus often spoke in simple, memorable ways. He used parables, short phrases and repeatable truths. Following His lead, our instructions can be both clear and kind. Short and sweet is effective and Christlike.

1. **Clarity is kindness.** When instructions run on and on, preschoolers get lost or distracted. Keep your words simple so kids can follow easily.
2. **Use short, focused phrases.** Instead of: "Okay friends, in just a minute we're going to move over to the rug so we can read our story together, and I need you all to be listening carefully while we do that," Try: "Friends, it's story time! Let's walk to the rug." Same goal, fewer words, more impact.
3. **Repeat and reinforce.** Young kids thrive when expectations are simple and repeated.
4. **Add motion or cues.** Use fun phrases or gestures like: "Eyes on me!" "Hands in lap." "Walking feet." These small signals guide behavior without it being overwhelming.

Preschool PERSPECTIVES

CATCH THE GOOD:

It's easy to notice what's going wrong. You look around and see a spilled snack, a kid pushing in line or someone interrupting circle time. But one of the most powerful classroom management strategies is simple: *Catch the good*.

1. **Notice the positive.** Intentionally look for moments of kindness, helpfulness or focus, however small...and you'll see what you look for.
2. **Say it aloud.** Say things like: "I love how you helped your friend just now!" Praising good behavior affirms that kid and encourages others to follow suit.
3. **Call out Christ-likeness.** When kids are recognized for acts of kindness, patience or helpfulness, point out how their behavior reflects Jesus' goodness.
4. **Follow Jesus' example.** He noticed and affirmed faith, love and obedience, even in small acts. You should too.
5. **Make it a rhythm.** Scan for good moments, speak them aloud and let kids know they are seen, valued and loved—by you...and by Jesus!

EXPECT MOVEMENT:

Jesus made preschoolers to move, and expecting them to sit perfectly still can be unrealistic (and exhausting!) for both kids and leaders. Some preschoolers actually burn more calories trying to stay seated than they do running, jumping or dancing! Jesus wired their brains and bodies to explore, wiggle and engage with the world around them.

1. **See movement as natural.** Wiggles, jumps and spins are part of learning and development, not necessarily misbehavior. Kids need to move to engage both their minds and bodies.
2. **Provide structured opportunities.** Transition songs, stretch breaks or active games help kids channel energy in positive ways, keeping the classroom calm while allowing natural movement.
3. **Recognize the benefits.** Movement supports physical, cognitive, and emotional growth. Kids process information, release tension and develop self-control through activity.

brite* Ministry LEADERS

OCTOBER

THIS MONTH'S ATTRIBUTE OF GOD IS: *God never fails.*

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THIS MONTH'S UNIT THEME IS: *Trailblazers*

This month, we remember that God never fails to guide His people. Throughout the Bible, God guided brave believers through wild paths, and we can follow in their footsteps! When obstacles seemed impossible, God proved faithful, providing direction, strength and victory. Like trailblazers marking the way, these stories show we can trust God to lead us wherever the trail goes. Check out our Pinterest page for decorating ideas:

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

BRITE in Action

This month, help kids share how God never fails by inviting them to record short testimony videos about how God has taken care of their families. Keep videos brief and age appropriate, and gather parent permission before sharing the videos. Share the testimonies during services, before or after programming or digitally with families. As kids boldly share their stories, they become trailblazers by pointing others to a faithful God who leads every step of the way.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION:

Celebrate your volunteers this month for being trailblazers of faith! Use the provided thank-you card and pair it with a small, adventure-themed treat or gift. Easy options like trail mix, flashlight keychains or vinyl nature stickers keep things simple and budget friendly. Little gestures like this may feel small, but they speak loudly. Your volunteers are blazing a trail for kids to belong to God, believe in Jesus as their Savior and become like Him through the power of the Holy Spirit.