

## Animated (PreK)

Week 1

### **BIG IDEA**

Because of God, I can feel secure.

### **BIBLE**

Jeremiah at the Potter's House: Jeremiah 18:1–11

## WELCOME TIME

### PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with toys and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins. This is a great opportunity to get to know kids and build relationships.*
  - *Get on the floor and be silly*
  - *Play along with what they're playing*
  - *Ask get-to-know-you questions*
  - *Learn names and use them as you interact*

### MUSIC | Worship Playlist

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *During free time, use one of our spotify playlists to play some background music.*

### CLEAN UP

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before moving onto the lesson content, play the "Clean Up" song and work together as a class to put all toys and activities away.*
  - *Place all toys in labelled tubs.*
  - *Place all tubs away in labelled cabinets*

## INTRO

### ACTIVITY | Animated Emotions

- Welcome everyone! I am so glad you're here with us today. We're starting a brand new series of lessons from the Bible. I am so excited!
- Let's talk about what emotions are. Emotions are feelings you have when something is happening.
- If you lost your favorite toy, you might feel sad.
- If your brother or sister took your toy away, you might feel angry.
- If you get to have ice cream after dinner, you might feel happy.
- **What are some other emotions we might feel?** [Possible answers: sad, angry, happy, excited, confused, scared, shy, disgusted, etc.]
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Offer the list of simple emotions (happy, sad, mad, sleepy, hungry) that kids will act out.
- This is a great list of emotions. Let's try to act each one out. I'll say the emotion and you show me what it might look like to feel that way.
  - For example, if I say "sad," you might make a little frown and pretend to cry. **Show me sad!**
- No matter what kinds of emotions we feel, we can feel safe and secure knowing God is there for us. God cares about the feelings we feel

## STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Jeremiah 18:1–11 (Jeremiah at the Potter's House)

- **Do you like movies?** I do! Some of my favorite movies are animated . . . movies that are cartoons. Do you like animated movies, too?
- Animated can mean a type of movie like a cartoon, but that word can also be used to describe people. When someone is "animated," they show their emotions in a big way!
- Remember all those emotions we just practiced?
- Well, in today's Bible story, we're going to talk about a guy, named Jeremiah, who knew what it was like to experience many different feelings.
  - Jeremiah was so big in his emotions, his nickname was "the weeping prophet." **Does anyone know what "weep" means?** It means "to cry!"
  - Prophets were people who God asked to deliver messages, and sometimes, the messages were really hard to deliver. And the truth God wanted Jeremiah to share made Jeremiah really, really sad.
  - God's message to Jeremiah was that God's people had messed up. Not only had they done wrong, but they kept doing the wrong things for a long time. That made God sad because the people were going to get into trouble for what they did.
- Let's read from the Bible to see what Jeremiah had to say.
- [Read Jeremiah 18:1–4.]
  - **Does anyone know what a potter does?** [Show pottery video.]
  - A potter uses a wheel to help shape clay into whatever they're making. I wonder why God sent Jeremiah to see this? Let's keep reading.
- [Read Jeremiah 18:5–11.]
  - God compared the clay in the potter's hands to God's people in God's hands. God would tell them what would happen if they didn't do what God asked them to do . . . and what good things could happen if they obeyed. Either way, God's people were still in God's hands.
  - God was shaping and molding them like a potter does with clay. God cared for them and would be there for them no matter what!
- **What kinds of things make you feel safe?**
- All of those things are great, but now, you heard how God will help you feel safe and secure, too. God loves us more than anyone ever could and he cares about us, so he watches over

you and keeps you safe.

BIG IDEA | Because of God, I can feel secure.

- That's our Big Idea today! Can you say it with me?
- **Because of God, I can feel secure.**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Introduce the Big Idea using the two speech bubbles out of poster board (or get [these](#)) and write "Because of God" on one and "I can feel secure" on the other. Invite volunteers to hold up each speech bubble and freeze in a funny, cartoon pose. When kids say the Big Idea, volunteers can "animate" and wave their speech bubble around.*

MUSIC | Animated Praise

- Great job listening today, friends! I am so glad that **because of God I can feel secure**, aren't you?
- I think it's time to get up and move around! Let's worship God together because he loves us and helps us feel safe!
- **SUPPLIES:**
  - *motion videos*
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play the motion videos and encourage kids to dance along! Here are the songs for this month:*
  - "God is With Me"
  - "Whole Lotta Bit"
  - "Perfect"
  - "Special"

MEMORY VERSE | Romans 15:13a (NLT)

- We have a brand new memory verse today. All month long, we're going to work together to remember these words from the Bible. They remind us that when we trust God, we have hope and joy and peace!
- Here's what our verse says
  - **"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him." Romans. 15:13a**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Kids will practice reciting the memory verse from Romans 15:13a in different animated voices that you call out (angry, excited, scared, sad, shy, surprised, etc.). Make sure you demonstrate for them and have them repeat the verse after you one chunk at a time.*
- We're going to say our memory verse five times. Every time we do it, I will call out a different animated voice that I want you to use to say your memory verse.

PRAYER

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before prayer time each week, play this emoji music video, "[Jesus Loves Me](#)," and have kids sing along.*
- Now, we're going to go to our small groups and talk with our friends, but before we do, we have a fun song to learn together. Watch this and sing along if you can.
- Now, let's pray:
  - God, help us to remember that you are with us in hard times and in really good times. You're molding and shaping us all the time. So, no matter what comes in life, we can feel secure in you because we know you love us. Amen.

## SHARING TIME

### DISCUSSION | What We've Learned

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Split kids into groups of 4-6 students. Review the Bible story together by asking and discussing the following questions.*
- **What does "secure" mean?**
- **Why did Jeremiah feel sad in our Bible story today?**
- **Why could he feel secure, though, even in times of sadness? Can we feel secure, too? Why?**

### ACTIVITY | Potter's Clay

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Kids will use [air-dry clay](#) to create a shape that will dry and they can take home.*
- Let's pretend to be potters today! Use your molding clay to shape and create something. You can make a pot, just as the potter did in the Bible story.
- Just like a potter with clay, God molds and shapes us, too. That means God helps us make the right choices and corrects us when we don't. Because of God, we have someone to turn to when we feel sad, or mad, or we don't know what to do.
- **Because of God, I can feel secure.**

### ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons. As the kids color, you can review the memory verse, awarding prizes for effort.*

## PLAY TIME

### EXTRA TIME ACTIVITY | Blindfold Security

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pair kids up and have them form a straight line at one end of the room. Put a blindfold on one of the kids and tell them to walk to the other end of the room without looking and without any help from anyone (stop them before they try, you won't actually let them do this!). Now, instruct their partner to hold their hand to guide them and verbally instruct them through the room to the other end. Allow all pairs of kids to try this activity.*
  - **TODDLER HACK:** *Toddlers are still developing their senses and it could be scary for them to lose their ability to see or to be touched without being able to see who's touching them. Instead of blindfolding toddlers, invite them to hold hands and walk across the room together over some small obstacles (jumping over a jump rope that's laying on the floor, or finding a way to go around a cone, or crawling through a tunnel together). Ask them questions about how they felt about having a helper. Was it fun? Did having a helper make things easier or less scary?*
- **How did it make you feel to be asked to walk across the room blindfolded with no help?**
  - **Did you feel nervous?**
  - **Scared?**
  - **In danger?**
- **How did you feel once you were able to have a partner guide you through the room?**
  - **Did you feel like you could do it better?**
  - **Did it make you feel safe?**
- Today, we learned about the word "secure." That means you feel safe and know that someone is looking out for you.
- Just like your partner leading and guiding you made you feel more secure walking through the room blindfolded, God makes us feel secure by always being with us.