

# THE MESSENGERS (PRESCHOOL)

WEEK 4

## BIG IDEA

God's message goes everywhere.

## Bible

Paul Shares the Gospel: Acts 16:9-15

## 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 | Here, There, Everywhere

- Hi Friends! All month long we've been talking about people who deliver the message about

Jesus to the world.

- Everyone needs to hear the Good News about Jesus!
- **Is there anywhere God's message can't go? No! God's message goes everywhere!**
- Let's play a game together to think of all the places God's message can go!
- **SUPPLIES:**
  - *music*
  - *inflatable ball*
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids sit in a circle. Start some music while you pass a ball around the circle. Stop the music randomly. Whoever is holding the ball when the music stops will say the name of any place (city, state, county, or even something like the park or school). After each kid says their place, the rest of the group should jump up and yell "God's message can go there!"*

## TEACHING TIME

### BIBLE STORY | Paul Shares the Gospel

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Gather the four boxes labelled "North," "South," "East," and "West" in large letters. On the other side, they'll say "God's," "message," "goes," and "everywhere." Position the boxes so that kids can only see the side with the direction words. Ask another leader to play the "Special Messenger" part right after the story.*
- **Who remembers who Paul is?**
  - Paul was once someone who would chase down people who talked about Jesus and send them to jail. But one day, he became a follower of God, too! From then on, he started telling everyone about Jesus.
- One day, God told Paul in a dream to go to a place called Macedonia.
  - **Let's say that together: Ma-ce-do-ni-a.**
- Once he got there, he did what he normally did. He told people about Jesus.
  - **Tell someone next to you, "Jesus loves you!"**
- A woman named Lydia heard the good news about Jesus from Paul. She decided to follow Jesus, too!
- Paul didn't know it yet, but God sent him all the way to Macedonia so that Lydia could hear his message.
- Wanna know something cool about Lydia?
  - She made and sold very pretty purple cloth! That means that Lydia got to meet many different people that wanted to buy the cloth she sold.
  - Now, Lydia could deliver God's message to all the people she met!
  - Can you imagine how many people she could tell about Jesus?
- Anyone who has heard God's message can keep the message going! God even asks some people to take his message to far away places where the people there have never heard about him!
  - Did you know that some people from our church live in different places around the world so they can deliver God's message? [show the map of our "strategic partners"] and read the blurb about each of them.
- God wants everyone to hear the message that Jesus loves us! [*move directly on to Special Messenger portion*]

### BIG IDEA | God's message goes everywhere.

- **Storyteller:** I'm waiting for our Special Messenger, but not for a delivery. Today, I have packages that I want to deliver to different places. (*Read the labels on each of the boxes and indicate which direction they will go.*)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have Special Messenger (SM) enter with an empty wagon.
- **SM:** (Enters with wagon) Hello, hello! I hear you have some special deliveries you need me to take!
- **Storyteller:** Hello, Special Messenger! Yes, I have these packages that need to go to different places.
- **SM:** Let me take care of those for you. (Lifts each package one at a time and turns around to place each on the wagon, revealing the words on the back.)
- **Storyteller:** Hey, look! There's the Big Idea for today! **God's message goes everywhere.** Let's all say it together. **God's message goes everywhere!**

## Music | Worship

- Great job listening today, friends! I think it's time to get up and move around! Let's worship God together with singing and dancing.
- **SUPPLIES:**
  - motion videos
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play the motion videos and encourage kids to dance along! Here are the songs for this month
  - "I'm Gonna Tell"
  - "Everyone Everywhere"
  - "Very Big Things"
  - "Anything At All"

## MEMORY VERSE | Isaiah 6:8 (NLT)

Great job! God loves to hear you sing to him! Everyone can take a seat on their spot again. This month, we're memorizing a verse from the Bible that is all about being God's messengers - we can share the stories about God and the wonderful things He does!

Let's practice it together right now!

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Say the verse once while doing the motions, then ask kids to repeat after you. Practice as needed!

**Then I heard** [point to your ear] **the Lord asking** [point to your mouth],

" **Whom should I send as a messenger to this people?** [raise arms as in "I don't know"]

"**Who will go for us?**" [walk in place] **And I said, "Here I am. Send me!"** [raise hand] **Isaiah 6:8** [close and open hands like opening a book]

## PRAYER

- God, thank you for sending your love everywhere. Show us how we can share the message of Jesus no matter where we are. We know you want everyone to know you like we do! Amen.

## DISCUSSION TIME

### Discussion | What We Learned

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Review the Bible story using the following questions:

- In today's story we heard how God's message was delivered to the people in Macedonia!
- **Do you remember the name of the woman living there that believed the message and decided to follow Jesus?** Lydia
- **What did Lydia do for a job?** She sold purple cloth
- Now Lydia could keep the message going to all the people she met!
- **Is there anywhere God's message can't go?** No
- **Where does God's message go?** Everywhere!
- We can help spread God's message that Jesus loves us to everyone we meet!
- Say it with me: **God's message goes everywhere!**

## ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTION:** *Print and distribute this week's coloring page along with crayons or markers. Discuss today's Bible story and Big Idea as kids color.*

## MEMORY VERSE | Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)

- This month, we're memorizing a verse from the Bible that is all about being God's messengers - we can help spread the message that Jesus loves us!
- Let's practice it together right now!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Say the verse once while doing the motions, then ask kids to repeat after you. Practice as needed!*

**Then I heard** [*point to your ear*]**the Lord asking** [*point to your mouth*], "**Whom should I send as a messenger to this people?**" [*raise arms as in "I don't know"*] "**Who will go for us?**" [*walk in place*]**And I said, "Here I am. Send me!"** [*raise hand*]**Isaiah 6:8** [*close and open hands like opening a book*]

## EXTRA TIME ACTIVITY | Pass the Parcel

- **Have you ever gotten a package delivered to you?** In today's story, Lydia had a message delivered to her and it was the best message EVER!
- Let's play a delivery game!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids line up, front to back. Give the child at the front of the line the small box. The goal is to pass the parcel down the line, alternating between passing over the head and between the legs.*