

# Preschool Parent Guides

# MAY

## MEMORY VERSE

**God's way**

(point up)

**is perfect.**

(two thumbs up)

**2 Samuel 22:31**

(Open hands like a book.)

## BOTTOM LINE

God's way is perfect

## SUPPLIES

### Week 1

Arrow Points the Way PDF, markers/crayons/stickers

### Week 2

Jonah Line tangle PDF, crayons; kitchen towels

### Week 3

Sheets of red dot stickers, household items for an obstacle course

### Week 4

Play crown (or just pretend!)

### Week 5

Big and Small PDF, small people/animal figurines

## MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

*Hear from God | Memory Verse Review*

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

No supplies needed.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "I will say our new memory verse. Watch me!

"God's way (*point up*) is perfect,' (*two thumbs up*) 2 Samuel 22:31." (*Open hands like a book.*)

**During the Activity:** "Now, let's do it together! Are you ready?"

"God's way (*point up*) is perfect,' (*two thumbs up*) 2 Samuel 22:31." (*Open hands like a book.*)

**After the Activity:** "Our memory verse tells us that God's way is perfect! **Whose way is perfect?** [*Bottom Line*] **God's way is perfect!**"

## HAPPY GARDEN

*Talk about God | Bible Story Review*

*Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

No supplies needed.

### WHAT YOU DO:

**During the Activity:** Tell your child to pretend to be one part of the garden: blooming flowers, tall swaying trees, and lots of different animals. As they pretend to be their part, review the Bible story.

**After the Activity:** Talk about how God made a perfect garden, but Adam and Eve chose to do things their own way instead of going God's way.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "We heard a story about how God made the world. Let's tell the story together!"

**During the Activity:** "In our Bible story, God made the world and a very special garden.

“God made flowers. You can pretend to be the flowers. Ball up then stretch high to the ceiling like you are blooming. (*Demonstrate.*)

“God made trees. You can pretend to be tall trees. Stand with your arms spread out and move side-to-side like your branches are blowing in the wind. (*Demonstrate.*)

“God made lots of animals. You can pretend to be animals. You can act like any animal you want because God made all of the animals.

“God saved the best for last—people! And the first people were named Adam and Eve. Now the garden was perfect. Show me your happy face because [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect.** (*Look around.*) I see the flowers are smiling; and the trees are smiling; and the animals are smiling. It was a very happy garden.

“God told Adam and Eve that they could eat all of the food that grew in the garden except the food on one special tree. Adam and Eve had a choice. Do they go their way or JUMP, JUMP, and go God’s way? What did Adam and Eve do? (*Pause.*) You’re right. They went their way instead of God’s way. Show me your sad face because Adam and Eve did not go God’s way. (*Look around.*) I see the flowers are sad; and the trees are sad; and the animals are sad. Now it’s a very sad garden.”

**After the Activity:** “Adam and Eve did not go God’s way, even though [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect.** It was very sad. But we can still JUMP, JUMP, and go God’s way! So, when I ask you, **‘Whose way is perfect?’**, I want you to say, [*Bottom Line*] **‘God’s way is perfect.’** Ready? **Whose way is perfect?** [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect!**”

## ARROW POINTS THE WAY

*Live for God | Application Activity*

*Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

“Arrow Points the Way” Activity Page, stickers, markers, scissors

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Copy “Arrow Points the Way” on cardstock and cut out.

**During the Activity:** Encourage your child to decorate their arrows with dot markers and stickers.

**After the Activity:** Review the Bible story.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** “Hello, friends! Come this way and sit down at the table.”

**During the Activity:** “This is an arrow. Arrows help us know which way to go. This arrow says I can go God’s way! Use the dot markers and stickers to decorate your arrow. *(Pause.)* These are amazing! You did a really nice job on your arrows. Hold your arrows up as high as you can and tell me, ‘I can go God’s way.’ *(Repeat.)* Great job!”

**After the Activity:** “In our Bible story, we heard about the very first garden. God filled it with plants, flowers, animals, and people! God made Adam and Eve. God told Adam to name all the animals and take care of them. Adam and Eve lived in God’s wonderful garden and knew that *[Bottom Line]* **God’s way is perfect.** They could eat fruit from any of the trees except one. That was the only rule God had for Adam and Eve. They could never, ever eat the fruit from one tree.

“But . . . Eve ate the fruit then gave it to Adam to eat. They didn’t do things God’s way, so God had to send them away from His beautiful garden. God still loved Adam and Eve, but everything they did was sooo much harder. It would have been easier if they had done things God’s way because *[Bottom Line]* **God’s way is perfect.** When God wants you to do something, remember that God’s way is perfect. **Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect.**”

## CHAT AND PRAYER

*Pray to God | Prayer Activity*

*Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer*

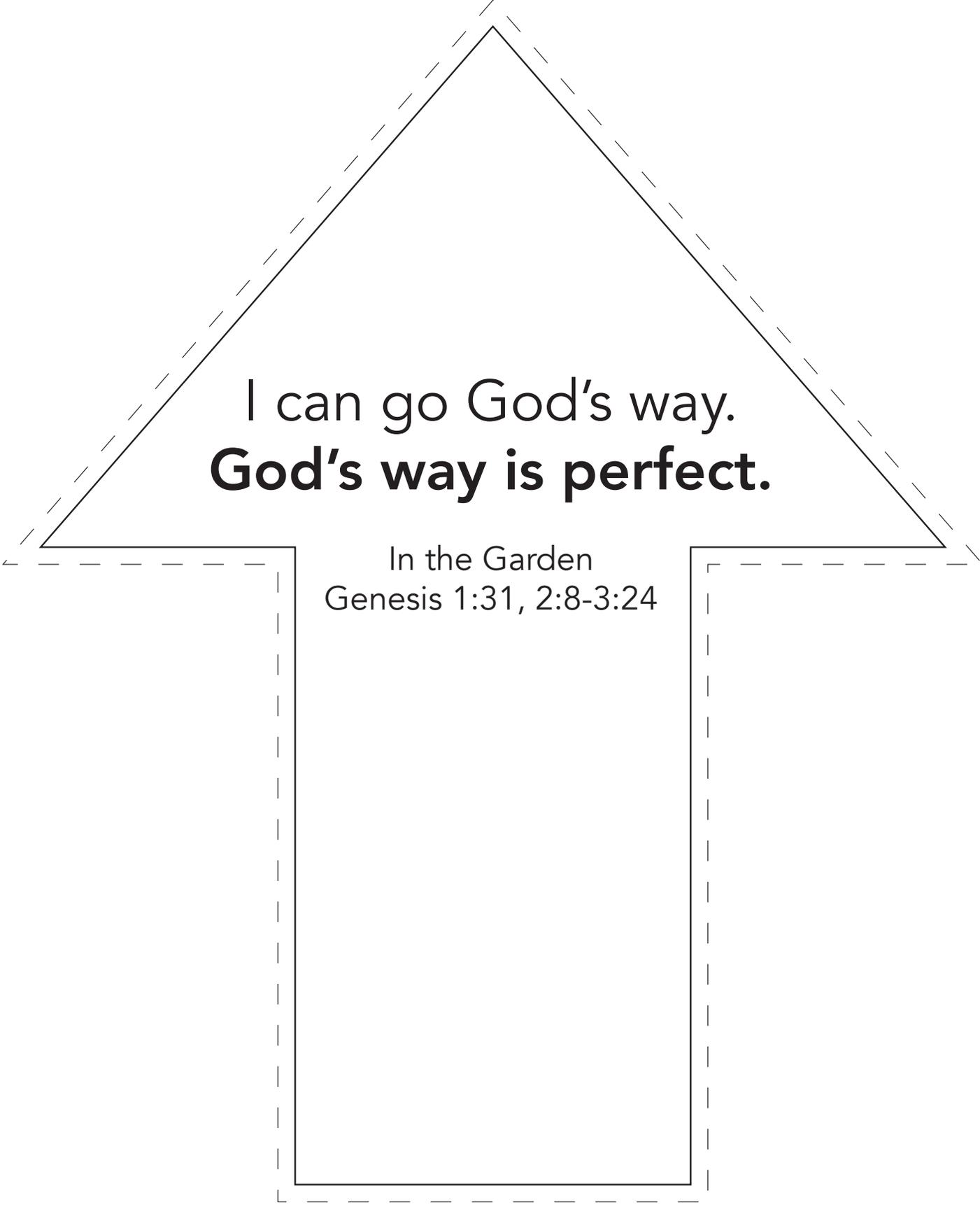
### WHAT YOU SAY:

“Let’s make a list of our favorite foods that God made. Then we can use our list to thank God for making food that tastes perfectly yummy. So, tell me your favorite food that God made, and I will write it down. Get ready and listen for your name!”

“Ooo, this is a list of yummy foods! Let’s pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

## PRAYER

“Dear God, thank You for making this amazing world and everything in it. We especially want to thank You for all of the yummy foods You made. *[Child’s name]* wants to thank You for making *[food they named]*. Please help us trust that Your way is perfect and to go Your way. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”



I can go God's way.  
**God's way is perfect.**

In the Garden  
Genesis 1:31, 2:8-3:24

## I'M JONAH

*Talk about God | Bible Story Review*

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

No supplies needed.

### WHAT YOU DO:

**During the Activity:** Tell the children that everyone will pretend they are Jonah. Lead them in doing the following actions as you review the Bible story.

1. Run in place.
2. Rock side-to-side in a boat.
3. Make fish faces and fins with your hands.
4. Run in place.
5. Cheer!

**After the Activity:** Talk about how Jonah learned that we should always go God's way.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "I'm so glad you're here! I have a fun way for us to talk about today's Bible story."

**During the Activity:** "We will pretend we are Jonah from the Bible story today. Point to yourself and say, 'I'm Jonah!' (*Repeat with children.*) I'm Jonah! Nice to meet you, Jonah! Ok, now just do what I do.

"First, run in place, like this. (*Run in place.*) Jonah ran away when God told Him to go tell the people in Nineveh to go God's way.

"Jonah ran and got in a boat. (*Rock side-to-side.*) The boat rocked harder and harder (*rock side-to-side in a bigger motion*) because a big storm came. Jonah told the people that God sent the storm because He did not go God's way. Jonah told the people to throw him in the water. And they did!

"Then God sent a HUGE fish to swallow Jonah! (*Make a fish face and fins with your hands.*) Jonah was safe inside the fish. Jonah prayed to God and told Him he was sorry for not going God's way. God made the huge fish spit Jonah out on dry land.

"When Jonah got out of the fish, he started running again! (*Run in place.*) This time he ran straight to Nineveh where God told him to go. He told the people to go God's way. And they did!

(*Cheer with fist pumps or jumping up and down.*) "Yay! Jonah told the people to go God's way." (*Repeat.*)

**After the Activity:** “Jonah did NOT want to go God’s way, at first, but he learned that he SHOULD go God’s way, because *[Bottom Line]* **God’s way is perfect. Whose way is perfect? *[Bottom Line]* God’s way is perfect!”**

## GO, GO JONAH

*Live for God | Application Activity*

*Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

“Jonah Line Tangle” Activity Page and crayons

### WHAT YOU DO:

**During the Activity:** Give each child an Activity Page. Point out Jonah at the bottom of the page and the “Nineveh” sign at the top. Talk about how Jonah didn’t want to go God’s way at first but eventually he did! He chose to go to Nineveh! Encourage the children to trace the lines with their crayons from Jonah to the Nineveh sign at the top of the page.

**After the Activity:** Make sure each child’s name is on their page and set aside for pick up.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**During the Activity:** “Do you see Jonah at the bottom of the page? When God first asked Jonah to go to Nineveh, did he go God’s way? *(Pause.)* NO! Jonah didn’t go God’s way. But after a trip in the opposite direction, and some time inside the belly of a fish, Jonah decided to go to Nineveh. Jonah learned that he should go God’s way. So, let’s use our crayons to trace the lines to get Jonah to the Nineveh sign right here at the top of the page.”

**After the Activity:** “Great job, friends! Let’s make sure your names are on your pages and we’ll set them right over here for you to take home. When you show these off at home, let’s tell everyone about how we should go God’s way. Why? Because *[Bottom Line]* **God’s way is perfect. Whose way is perfect? *[Bottom Line]* God’s way is perfect!”**

## CAN YOU JUMP OVER IT?

*Live for God | Application Activity*

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

Kitchen towels

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Set the carpet squares or lay the kitchen towels out flat around your activity area.

**During the Activity:** Challenge your child to see if they can jump over each of the carpet squares or kitchen towels!

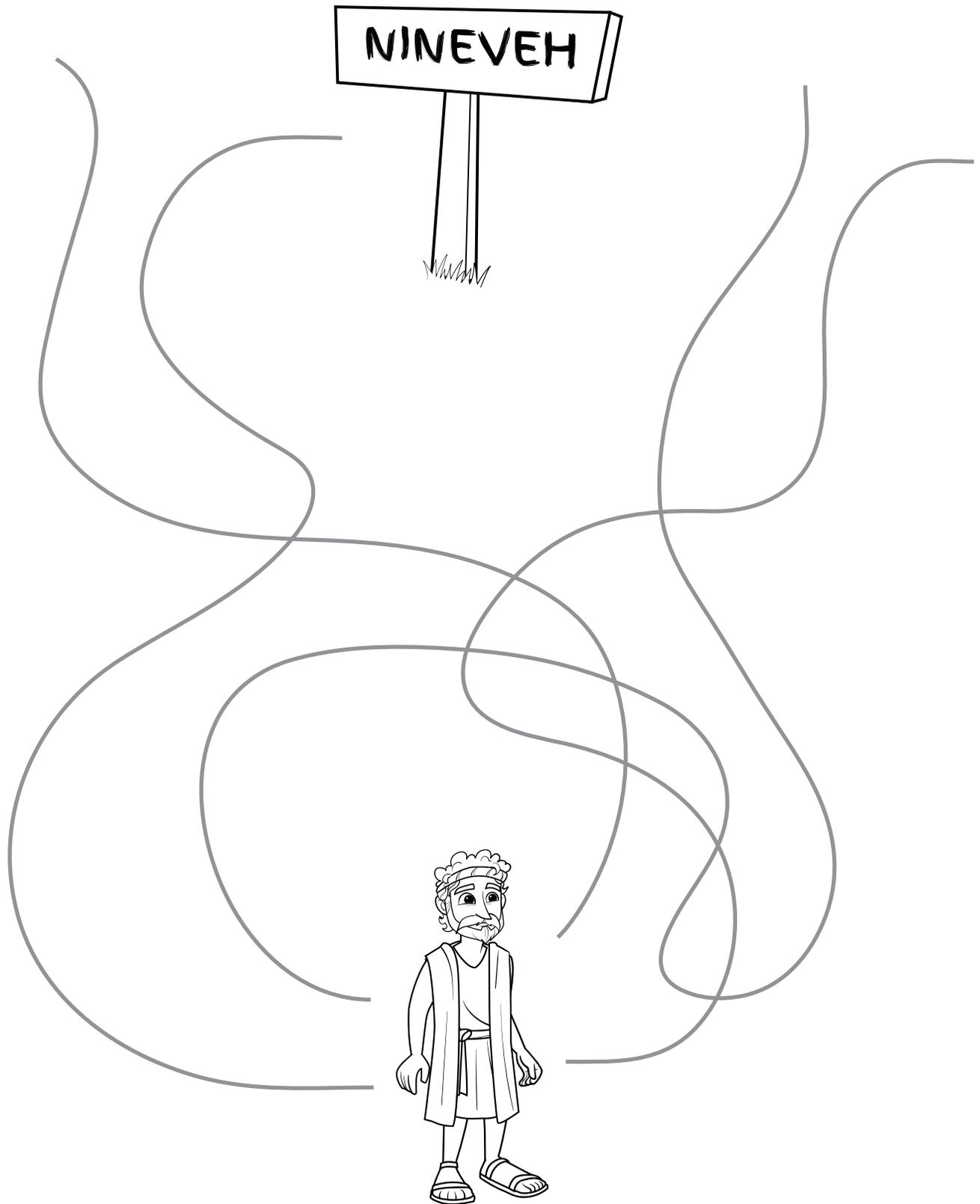
### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** “Do you think you can jump over these towels? Let’s find out!”

**After the Activity:** “Great job, friends! You did it. You jumped right over those towels just as I asked! You followed my instructions and went my way. But guess what? There is someone even MORE important that we should follow! Can you guess who it is? *(Pause.)* Yes! We should go God’s way because *[Bottom Line]* **God’s way is perfect!** When you choose to go God’s way, you’ll always head in the right direction!”

### PRAYER:

“Dear God, thank You for teaching us that Your way is perfect. Help us to JUMP, JUMP, and go your way, because *[Bottom Line]* **God’s way is perfect!** We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”



**God's way is perfect.**

Jonah

Jonah 1:1-3:10

## MOVE TIMES SEVEN

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

No supplies needed.

### WHAT YOU DO:

**During the Activity:** Guide the children to do activities seven times. Activity examples are jump, touch toes, pat tummy, say name, jumping jack, hop like frog, etc. Repeat several times.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "Can you count to seven? Let's count together. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven. Great job!"

**During the Activity:** "Now, can you jump (*demonstrate*) seven times? Let's do it together. (*Jump seven times while counting.*) That is awesome! Can you . . . touch your toes (*demonstrate*) seven times? Show me. (*Touch toes seven times while counting.*) Incredible!" (*Continue with other activities.*)

**After the Activity:** "You counted to seven so many times today. Super! In our Bible story today, there is a man who has to do something seven times. I can't wait to find out what it is."

## SEEING SPOTS

*Talk about God | Bible Story Review*

*Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

Sheets of red dot stickers

### WHAT YOU DO:

**During the Activity:** Give your child a sheet of red dot stickers. Tell the children you will pretend you are Naaman from the Bible story, and they need to cover you in red spots to show that your skin is sick. Once you are covered in red spots, lead the children in counting to seven. When everyone says seven, tell the children to take the red spots off because now you're all better!

**After the Activity:** Talk about how Naaman went God's way, even when it was hard, and we can, too!

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**During the Activity:** “I will give you some red dot stickers. Now I will pretend to be Naaman from the Bible story. I need you to put all of your red dot stickers on me because my skin is very, very sick. *(Allow the children to put the stickers on you.)*”

“Wow, look at me! I’m covered in spots! I need to get better. God wants me to dip seven times in the river. It’s going to be hard, but I need to go God’s way. Count to seven with me! One, two, three, four, five, six, SEVEN! Take the spots off. I went God’s way, and now I’m all better!”

**After the Activity:** “Naaman was sick and needed help. When he was told that God’s way was to dip in the water seven times, he wasn’t sure he wanted to do that. But Naaman decided to jump, jump and go God’s way. And God made him all better! Wow! *[Bottom Line]* **God’s way is perfect! Whose way is perfect?** *[Bottom Line]* **God’s way is perfect! Yay!** *[Bottom Line]* **God’s way is perfect!”**

**OBSTACLE COURSE**

*Live for God | Application Activity*

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn*

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

Items from your house to create an obstacle course

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**Before the Activity:** Use three or four items from your house to set up a simple obstacle course.

**Ideas:**

- Lay a book on the floor for children to hop over.
- Use a chair or the table for children to crawl under.
- Set up the trash can for children to walk around.
- Use tape to mark a zig-zag line on the floor that they must walk along.

Limit your obstacle course to three or four obstacles set up in a row in your activity area.

**During the Activity:** Introduce the obstacle course, pointing out each obstacle. Then “run” through the course to demonstrate each one.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**During the Activity:** “Look! It’s an obstacle course. Do you think you can make it through? It might be tough, but you can do it. Let me show you how. (*Demonstrate the course.*) Are you ready to give it a try? Remember, don’t give up, even when it’s hard!”

**After the Activity:** “You did awesome! I’m proud of you for sticking with it, even when it was hard. We can do the same thing when it comes to going God’s way! We can follow God and go God’s way, even when it’s hard. He will help us! **Whose way is perfect?** [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect.**”

**JOURNAL AND PRAYER**

*Pray to God | Prayer Activity*

*Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer*

“Today, we’ll make a list of things that are hard to do but we know when we do them we go God’s way. Maybe it’s hard to share with your brother or sister sometimes. Maybe it’s hard to tell the truth sometimes. Maybe it’s hard to tell people to go God’s way sometimes. Think about it, and tell me something that is hard to do.

“Thank you for making this list with me. Let’s pray and ask God to help us go His way, even when it’s hard. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

**PRAYER**

“Dear God, we want to JUMP, JUMP, and go Your way, but sometimes it’s hard. Please help [child’s name] to [what they listed]. We know Your way is perfect, and it is always best to JUMP, JUMP, and go Your way. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

## FOLLOW THE LEADER

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

Crown

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Have your child line up in a single file line behind you. Hold the crown or place it on your head.

**During the Activity:** Ask your child to follow you as the leader. Lead them around the room.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "Follow me! I am your leader! Go where I go!"

**During the Activity:** "Follow me! Great job! Keep following! (*Continue the activity.*) Let's see how far we can go! Follow the leader!"

**After the Activity:** "You are all awesome! You did a great job following the leader. I am wearing a crown because today in our Bible story we are going to hear about a King who was a leader and he was only a CHILD like you!"

## BUBBLES

*Live for God | Application Activity*

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

Bubble solution and a large bubble wand or machine

### WHAT YOU DO:

**During the Activity:** Blow the bubbles toward the children. Encourage the children to follow the bubbles wherever they go. Repeat several times.

## WHAT YOU SAY:

**During the Activity:** “When I blow the bubbles, you may follow them. Watch super carefully to see where they go and follow them. Are you ready? (*Do activity.*) Great job!”

**After the Activity:** “Great job of following the bubbles! We can follow God wherever He leads us! [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect! Whose way is perfect?** [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect!**”

## JOURNAL AND PRAYER

*Pray to God | Prayer Activity*

*Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer*

“The Bible verse we’ve been learning will help us remember that [*Bottom Line*] **Gods way is perfect** because it says . . . (*Turn in your Bible to 2 Samuel 22:31*)

“God’s way is perfect.’ 2 Samuel 22:31. How perfect is that? Let’s stand up and say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do.”

“God’s way (*point up*) is perfect,’ (*two thumbs up*) 2 Samuel 22:31.” (*Open hands like a book.*)

*(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)*

“King Josiah told the people that [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect.** So today, we will make a list of people we can tell that [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect.** Can you think of one person you can tell that [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect.**

“Thank you for making this list with me. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

## PRAYER

“Dear God, thank You for teaching us that Your way is perfect. Help us be brave like King Josiah and tell (*read the list the children made*) that Your way is perfect, because it’s true! [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect!** We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

## BIG AND SMALL

*Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

“Big and Small” Activity Page and scissors

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Copy “Big and Small” on cardstock and cut on the dotted lines.

**During the Activity:** Help your child sort the pictures into “big” and “small” piles. pile.

**Big items:** Building, tree, bus, earth, elephant, plane

**Small items:** Spoon, toothbrush, crayons, ladybug, squirrel, teddy bear

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** “We have many pictures in our pile. *(Point.)* Some of the pictures are big items and some of the pictures are small items.”

**During the Activity:** “Let’s work together to make a pile of the big items and another pile of the small items. *(Do activity.)* I see a picture of a car. Is a car big or small? *(Pause.)* Yes, it’s big! It goes in the big pile. Here is a picture of a plate. Is a plate big or small? *(Pause.)* You got it! It goes in the small pile! *(Continue and finish activity.)*

**After the Activity:** “Today, we heard a story from the Bible about a big army and a small army. Which army won the battle?”

## THE SMALLER THE BETTER

*Talk about God | Bible Story Review*

*Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler’s innate curiosity into a discussion of the week’s crucial concepts*

### WHAT YOU NEED:

Little People® figures or other small figurines.

### WHAT YOU DO:

**During the Activity:** Have a lot of toy figures standing in front of you. Take away some of the figures two different times as you retell the Bible story. Repeat and let the children help take away the toy people.

**After the Activity:** Talk about how Gideon believed that God's way is always perfect.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "I'm so glad you're here. Come sit with me!"

**During the Activity:** "In today's Bible story, Gideon had a big army with a lot of soldiers. Look at the big army! (*Point to the toy people.*) But God told Gideon to send some of the soldiers away. This made Gideon's army smaller. Bye-bye soldiers. (*Take away several toy people and put them behind you.*) Now look at Gideon's army. It's smaller. (*Point to the people.*)

"But God wasn't done. God told Gideon to send more soldiers away. This made Gideon's army even smaller! Bye-bye soldiers. (*Take away several people and put them behind you.*) Now look at Gideon's army. It's really small. (*Point to the people.*)

"Gideon believed that [*Bottom Line*] **God's way is perfect**, so he did what God said; and everything worked out! Let's do that again. This time, you can help make the soldiers go bye-bye." (*Repeat the activity and let the children make the army smaller and smaller.*)

**After the Activity:** "Gideon believed that [*Bottom Line*] **God's way is perfect**, even when it didn't look like it would work. And God's way was perfect! God used a small army just like a big army! Yay! [*Bottom Line*] **God's way is perfect! Whose way is perfect? [*Bottom Line*] God's way is perfect!**"

## PRAYER

"Dear God, thank You for (*your child*). I pray they will trust that Your way is perfect. I pray they will be brave enough to tell others that Your way is perfect. And I pray they will go Your way, even when they don't understand. Thank You for loving us and helping us go Your way. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

