

WEEK 1 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

BIG AND SMALL

THE BIG IDEA

We are small but
God is big.

THE BIBLE

Job's Sufferings:
Job 1:1, 2:1-10

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Big Praise

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs you like best, but here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "Super Big" (Yancy & Little Praise Party)
 - "Lord, I Need You" (Kids Version)
 - "It's Been a Lovely Day" (Vineyard Kids)
 - "Tiny Little Voice" (Hillsong Kids Jr.)

ACTIVITY | Giant Ring Toss

- Hi, everyone! This month is all about big and small things, because we are going to learn about our great, big God!
- First, let's play a game of giant ring toss!
- **Do you think using great big rings is going to be easier or harder?** Let's find out!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the kids arrive, cut a few pool noodles in half and tape them to the floor to be the poles for the ring toss. Tape a couple of pool noodles into circles to be used as the rings for the ring toss. Alternatively, you can use traffic cones and hula hoops.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Give toddlers large beach balls to roll, throw, and catch instead.

ACTIVITY | Miniature Bowling

- **How many of you have ever gone bowling?**
- Bowling can sometimes be a really hard game, but so much fun!
- Today, we're going to play a mini version of bowling. Let's see which one we like more!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Gather ten tiny soda or water bottles to use as bowling pins and a small ball – such as a tennis ball – to be the bowling ball. Have the kids play miniature bowling at their leisure or make it into a competition.*

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Let toddlers knock the pins down with beach balls or playground balls.*

TEACHING TIME

BIBLE STORY | Job's Sufferings

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Open your Bible to Job 1:1; 2:1-10 as you tell the story.*
- As you listen to today's Bible story, whenever you hear me say, "God," stand up really tall. Whenever you hear me say, "Job," crouch down and make yourself as small as possible.
- Long ago, there was a man named Job. Job had everything he needed, made wise choices and loved God very much. God was very proud of Job.
- But not everyone thought that Job was that special, and believed Job was only a good person because he had everything he could ever want.
- Well, as it turns out, Job lost all his belongings and even his family.
- **What do you think Job did?**
- Even though he now had nothing, Job still loved God and sang praises to God.
- Then Job got really, really sick. He had sores all over his body and he was in a lot of pain.
- **What do you think Job did?**
- That's right! Job still praised God. Job knew that he was just one, small person that was created by a great, big God.
- Job didn't blame God, but knew that if anyone could make things right again, it would be God. So Job continued to trust God!

BIG IDEA | We are small, but God is big.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Write the Big Idea in a really small font on a huge piece of paper. Use an oversized magnifying glass to read it.*
- Look at this tiny message on this great, big paper! It's so tiny, I need to use a magnifying glass to read it. Magnifying glasses make small things look bigger.
- **We are small, but God is big!** That's our Big Idea. Those small words gave us our Big Idea!
- Let's say it together: **We are small, but God is big!**
- No matter what comes our way, God is always bigger!

VIDEO | Big and Small, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of Cali's World.*

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for loving us even though we are so small. Help us to keep loving and believing in you because you are so big and you always take care of us. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Small Cakes

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show the kids a [picture](#) of a big birthday cake and then give them each their own mini cupcake to eat.
- **What are some things that are really small?**
- **What are some things that are really big?**
- **Do you think Job felt big or small?**
- **How do you think Job felt about God?**
- We usually have cakes for big celebrations. You might think we have nothing really big to celebrate today, but we can eat this small cupcake and think about how we may be small, but our God is big!

ACTIVITY | “A Fish Out of Water”

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the book, [“A Fish Out of Water,”](#) by Helen Palmer. Make the book available for the kids to read during playtime as well. You can also show a read-aloud video [like this one](#).
- What a day for that boy and his fish. It started out small and then got really big!
- That happens with our problems, too. They start out small and then get bigger and bigger!
- **Do you remember what happened to Job?**
- I bet Job’s problems seemed really, really big. **But who was bigger than Job’s problems?**
- That’s right! God! **We are small, but God is big.** God is bigger than us, and bigger than all of our problems.

ACTIVITY | This is Small, but God is Big

- **Are there things in your life that make you feel small? Maybe even worried or scared?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Think with kids about times they might feel extra small. Either ask kids to share their examples or come up with a few yourself (e.g., not being able to reach something on a high shelf, not being able to ride certain rides at an amusement park, when grownups couldn’t hear what they said, etc.). Whenever each situation is spoken, have kids squat down and curl up to make themselves very small, while saying, “This is small.” Then have them say, “But God is big!” and jump up with their hands outstretched.
- **Does knowing that we are small, but God is big help us face scary things? How?**
- We can trust God all the time. And God will make us brave. Let’s say it together: **We are small, but God is big!**

MEMORY VERSE | Job 37:5 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** On a section of pavement or on a large section of black bulletin board paper, write keywords from Job 37:5 in big bubble letters and invite the kids to decorate the letters, or get them to help you write parts of the verse.
- **We are small, but God is big.** Let's write the memory verse really big for God. Say it with me as we write it.
- **"God's voice thunders in marvelous ways; he does great things beyond our understanding."** (Job 37:5)

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. Since this month's coloring pages are not literal Bible characters, talk with kids about how today's illustration is related to today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse!

ACTIVITY | Chutes and Ladders

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide a [Chutes and Ladders](#) (or similar) game for the kids to play.
- Job praised God when times were good and when times were bad. Whenever you go down a chute say, "We are small," and when you go up a ladder, say "But God is big!"

ACTIVITY | Big and Small Stations

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up a few stations with big and small activities.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Provide a few large-to-small toddler [stacking toys](#) as well.
- **How Big is It?:** Provide rulers, yardsticks, and measuring tapes for the kids to measure items around the room.
- **Big Bowl, Small Bowl:** Place a small bowl (marked "small") and a large bowl (marked "big") on the table. Provide the smallest and largest items of sorting toys and invite the kids to sort them by size.
- **Pom-Pom Sort:** Mix jumbo pom-poms and mini pom-poms in a bin. Provide tweezers and kitchen tongs. Ask the kids to use the tweezers and tongs to pick up the pom-poms and put them into cups.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.