

## WEEK 3 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

## BIG AND SMALL

### THE BIG IDEA

God sees the big picture.

### THE BIBLE

**God Answers Job:**  
Job 38:1-7, 34-41

## 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 | The Small Picture

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print several large pictures (see your Shop & Prep List for suggestions). Cover up a large chunk of each image using sticky notes, only allowing a small part of the picture to be visible. Have the kids shout out what they think the image is on the picture and then reveal it slowly.
- I have some pictures here, and I want you to guess what they are.
- So much of the picture is covered, though. We are missing part of the picture! **Can you guess what it might be even though we cannot see the whole thing?**
- Let's slowly uncover the rest of the picture. **Now, what do you think it is?**
- It's hard to guess what is going on when we can't see the whole picture!

### ACTIVITY | Mini Pic Challenge

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Divide the kids into groups and give them a copy of the printable containing ten tiny images. Encourage the kids to try to guess what the pictures are. It may even be fun for the kids to use a magnifying glass.
- We just saw how hard it is to tell what a picture is when we only see part of an image.
- Now, we are going to have a different type of challenge!
- **What will happen when the picture is super tiny?**
- **Can we see these super tiny images? What would help us to see them better?**
- Sometimes, we need help to see the whole picture.

## TEACHING TIME

### BIBLE STORY | God Answers Job

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Open your Bible to today's passage, Job 38:1-7; 34-41, as you tell the story. Consider enlarging today's coloring page into a poster size and cut it up into "puzzle pieces" (or use a regular jigsaw puzzle with 12 or less large pieces). Put up one piece at a time as you tell the story to show God sees the big picture.
- [Start putting up your puzzle one piece at a time at various points throughout your teaching.] We've been hearing the story of how a lot of not-so-great things have happened to Job.
- **Can you remember some of the things that happened?**
- Job was really upset and he asked God, "Why did this happen to me?"
- **Have you ever wondered why something bad happened?**
- I've wondered about that, too. Well, Job asked God, and God answered.
- [Read Job 38:1-7.]
  - God answered Job with questions. God asked, "Where were you when I created all the world? Who made everything?"
  - **We all know who created all the world, don't we?** Yes! God is the creator of everything.
- [Read Job 38: 34-41.]
  - God asked Job, "Can you do all the things I can do?"
  - **What do you think? Can he?** Of course not! Only God can do all those things.
- Only God knows everything that is happening. Job only knows a little bit at this point in our story. It's like he's only looking at a little piece of the picture.
- [Complete your picture puzzle.] When I first started putting up these puzzle pieces, you probably didn't know what this picture would be. But now that it's finished, we can see a clear picture!
- When it comes to our lives, we sometimes only see a little bit but God can see everything and God is with us!

### BIG IDEA | God sees the big picture.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write the Big Idea in a really small font on a large piece of paper. Use an oversized magnifying glass to read it.

- Look at this tiny message on this great, big piece of paper! It's so tiny, I need to use a magnifying glass to make it bigger so I can read it.
- That's today's Big Idea! **God sees the big picture!** Let's say it together! **God sees the big picture!**
- We can trust God with whole picture.

### VIDEO | Big and Small, Episode 3

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

### ACTIVITY | DIY Binoculars

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have the kids make their own cardboard binoculars using [these instructions](#) (or similar ones).*
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Create binoculars in advance for toddlers that they can decorate with fun stickers.*
- Today, we're going to create some binoculars together. **What do binoculars do?**
- Binoculars help us see things far away! They can help us see a more complete picture.
- We can use these binoculars to remind us that **God sees the big picture.**

### PRAYER

- Dear God, even though we know a lot of things, there is still so much that we don't know. It's like seeing only a small part of a big picture. Thank you for seeing the big picture and leading us to where we're supposed to go. Amen.

## DISCUSSION TIME

### SNACK | Earth Cookies

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Prepare and serve these [Earth cookies](#) and water or juice as you discuss today's story. For a no-bake option, pass out Earth-themed treats [like this one](#). As the kids eat, share a story about a time when you thought you knew something only to find out the big picture later (e.g., You thought your friends forgot about your birthday, but they were all planning a surprise party).*
- Look at this snack. Where we live is just a tiny little dot on here, but God sees the whole Earth!
- **Why do you think God doesn't always show us the big picture?**
- Even though we don't know everything, isn't it wonderful that our God does? **God sees the big picture!**

### ACTIVITY | Zoom In, Zoom Out

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Prepare one or more devices to take pictures. Let each kid take a turn taking a picture of something around the room while everyone closes their eyes. Then, zoom in on the picture and allow the kids to guess what the original picture is. Make sure everyone gets a turn to snap a photo.*

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Take pictures in advance of easily identifiable items around the room. Have toddlers point out where that item is.

- When we zoom in on something too closely, it's hard to see what it is. But when we zoom out, now we can see the whole picture!
- **Could Job see God's big picture?**
- **What part of the big picture did Job see?**
- **What did God help Job understand?**
- We can always trust that **God sees the big picture!**

### ACTIVITY | God's Big Picture Frame

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Encourage the kids to work together to decorate a large poster frame. While they are working, pull them aside one by one and take a picture of each kid. (If you have access to an instant camera, that would be ideal. Otherwise, make arrangements to print the pictures as soon as possible.) Place the kids' pictures on a poster that will go inside the frame they are decorating.
- Today, we are going to make a big frame for God's Big Picture. **I wonder what will go inside the frame?**
- Look who's part of God's big picture! You are!
- **How are you a part of God's big picture?**
- **What can you do to help in God's picture?**
- Even if we can't see it, we know that **God sees the big picture!**

### MEMORY VERSE | Job 37:5 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print the printable. Give one or more memory verse words to each kid and teach them to say their assigned word. Line them up in order and have them say their word when instructed. You can also take a picture of each kid holding their word(s) and create a slideshow to use next week.
- The Bible helps us see parts of God's big picture. Let's decorate this big picture of the memory verse as we practice saying it together.
- **"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 | Puzzle Station

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out several simple puzzles.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Provide toddler-safe puzzles, such as [these](#).
- When we work on a puzzle, we put together a lot of small pieces to make a big picture. Try to imagine what the big picture is while you work on the puzzle.
- **God sees the big picture!**

### ACTIVITY | Small World Play

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare a sand table with small items such as small animals, trees, dolls, etc. Encourage the kids to act out real-life or imaginary scenes from the world with the items you supply.
- **God sees the big picture!** We can see more of the picture with our small world play, but not as much as God. Act out ways we can be a part of God's big picture.

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