

STARFISH & DOLPHINS

WEEK 1, May 5th

Today's Bible Story: I can hear from God. King Josiah • 2 Chronicles 34

Memory Verse: "I will always love you." Jeremiah 31:3, CEV

Key Question: Who loves you?

Bottom Line: God loves me.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

SOCIAL: Time for fun!

ACTIVITY: King Says...

What You Need: Toy crown

What You Do: Encourage children to spread out in an open area of the room. Wear the crown and explain that you will play a game of "King Says!" Call out different movements for the children to follow, but remind them to ONLY follow if you start with "King Says." If you call out a movement and do not say "King Says," remind the children to keep going. Do not call for anyone to be out, just continue to remind them of the rules of the game.

What You Say: "In this game, it's important to listen carefully. I'll call out a movement for you to follow. But only follow if you hear me say, 'King Says' first. Ready? King says, pat your head. (Pause.) Great job! King says, blink your eyes. (Pause.) Fantastic! Touch your elbow. (Pause.) I

didn't say King says . . . Let's keep going! (Continue with different movements, such as clapping your hands, touching your toes, shouting 'hooray,' saying your name, stomping your feet, etc.) You all are such great listeners! Thanks for playing 'King Says' with me."

MEMORY VERSE: Memory Verse with Motions

What You Need: No supplies needed.

What You Do: Say the Memory Verse and teach the motions to the children.

What You Say: Friends, join me over here. The Bible teaches us that God says, 'I (point up) will always (draw circles with finger pointing up) love you,' (cross arms over chest) Jeremiah 31:3. (Open hands like a book.)

LARGE GROUP: Time to Praise & Worship God

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God. ways.

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways.

SMALL GROUP: Time to connect with the children! PRAY: Praise God, Thank God!

CRAFT: King King Where's the Bible

What You Need: Small Bible

What You Do: Sit in a circle with the children. Select one child to sit in the center. Ask the child in the center to close and cover their eyes with their hands. Give the Bible to a child sitting in the circle and ask them to hide it. Once hidden, ask the children to repeat the rhyme 'King, King,

Open your eyes. Find the Bible in three tries.' When they finish, give the child in the center three tries to select the child with the Bible. If correct, that child stays in the center. If incorrect, the child with the Bible will hold it up and then switch places with the child in the center. Play several rounds to allow as many children to be in the center as possible.



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What You Say: I need one friend to sit in the center. [Child's name], please come to the center of the circle with me. I'm going to ask [child's name] to close and cover your eyes. Then I'll give this Bible to a friend in our circle to hide. You can hide it by putting it underneath your legs. Ready? Let's play. Okay [child's name], close and cover your eyes for me. Everyone around the circle, be very, very quiet as we hide the Bible. *(Select a child to hide the Bible.)* 'King, King, Open your eyes. Find the Bible in three tries.' *(Repeat as desired.)* That was so fun! Today in our Bible Story, we heard how happy King Josiah was when they found the scroll with God's words on it! King Josiah was so excited that he began reading God's words so he could hear from God. God gave us this book, the Bible, *(hold up the Bible)* so we can hear from God. It tells us about who God is, how we should live, and how much God loves us! God loves you and me so very much. **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!**"

ACTIVITY: Written on the Scroll

What You Need: "Written on the Scroll" Activity Page, copy paper, paper smoothie straws, stamps, washable ink pads, crayons, yarn, double-sided tape. *Option: hot glue gun and hot glue sticks in place of double-sided tape*

What You Do: Cut yarn in twelve-inch lengths, one per child. *Option: Hot glue a straw along each of the short edges.* Encourage children to decorate their scrolls with stamps and crayons. Help children apply a strip of double-sided tape along each of the short edges of their paper and lay a straw over the tape. Help children roll both edges toward the center to make a scroll. Tie a piece of yarn around the rolled scroll.

What You Say: In our story, we learned about a young king named Josiah. Josiah loved God and wanted to hear from God, so he read a scroll with God's words on it. Let's make our own scroll with special words on them today. Look at your paper—it doesn't look like a scroll yet, but it

does have special words on it. Those words say, 'God loves me,' and it tells you where you can look in the Bible to find today's Bible Story. Use the crayons and stamps to decorate your paper. *(Pause.)* Let's add a piece of this sticky tape along the side and press a straw on top of it. *(Pause.)* And the same for this side. *(Repeat.)* Now we need to roll it up *(help children roll their scrolls)* and tie it with a piece of yarn. *(Help as needed.)* King Josiah was so excited that he began reading God's words so he could hear from God. King Josiah wanted to do what God said because he loved God, and he knew God loved him. God loves you, and you, and you, and me too! That's why God gave US a book where we can hear from God too. Do you know what book that is? *(Pause.)* That's right, the Bible. The Bible is full of stories and words from God about who God is, how we should live, and how much God loves us. The Bible is like a big 'I LOVE YOU' from God! **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!** That's right! **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!**"