

# His Hands

## LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

**Theme:** Eternal Security

**Scripture:** John 10:28

**Memory Verse:** John 10:28 - 'I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.'

## The Children's Sermon

Hey there! Today, we're going to talk about something really cool - God's Protective Hands. Imagine the biggest, strongest, and safest hands you can think of. Those are God's hands! And guess what? He's always ready to keep us safe in them. Let's dive into some amazing things about God's hands.

Job 36:32 says, "He fills his hands with lightning and commands it to strike its mark." Can you imagine holding lightning? That's how powerful God's hands are!

Psalms 19:1 tells us, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." When you look up at the sky, all the beautiful stars and clouds are showing off what God can do with His hands.

In Psalm 95:4, we learn, "In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him." That means the deepest oceans and the tallest mountains are all in God's hands. Isn't that amazing?

And Isaiah 40:12 asks, "Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens?" Imagine trying to hold all the water in the world in your hands, or trying to measure how big the sky is with your arms. We can't do it, but God can because His hands are that big and strong.

Now, think about how safe you feel when someone who loves you holds your hand. Maybe when you cross the street or when you're a little scared. God's Protective Hands are like that but even better. He's always holding us, keeping us safe, and making sure we're okay.

Let's read our special verse for today, John 10:28, "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand." This means that when we believe in Jesus, God holds us so tight in His protective hands that nothing can take us away from Him. Not now, not ever. We're super safe in God's hands!

But what do God's Protective Hands do for us every day? Well, they guide us when we're not sure which way to go. Have you ever been lost or unsure about something? God's hands lead the way and show us the right path.

God's Protective Hands also comfort us. When we're sad, scared, or hurt, God's hands are there to give us a big, warm hug, making us feel better.

And you know what? God's Protective Hands are always open. They're never too busy or too full. They're always ready to help us, protect us, and show us love.

Sometimes, we might not feel like we're in God's Protective Hands. We might feel alone or scared. But that's when we need to remember all these amazing things about God's

hands. They're big enough to create the stars, strong enough to hold the oceans, and gentle enough to hold us.

Let's do a little activity. Hold out your hands in front of you. Look at them. They can hold things, right? But can they hold everything? No, they can't. But God's hands can hold everything in the whole wide world, and they still have room to hold you and me. That's how special we are to God.

So, whenever you're feeling scared or alone, remember that you're in God's Protective Hands. You can talk to Him anytime, and He's always listening. You can tell Him anything, and He's always there to help. Because in God's hands, we're safe, we're loved, and we're never alone.

And let's not forget to share about God's Protective Hands with others. Maybe you have a friend who's feeling scared or alone. You can tell them about how big, strong, and safe God's hands are. You can help them understand that they're never alone because God's always holding them in His protective hands.

In conclusion, remember, no matter where we go or what we do, we're always in God's Protective Hands. He's holding us tight, keeping us safe, and loving us more than we can imagine. Let's say a little prayer to thank God for His protective hands.

"Dear God, thank you for Your big, strong, and protective hands. Thank you for holding us tight and keeping us safe. Help us to always remember how much You love us and to share Your love with others. Amen."

**Bible Memory Verse**

## **John 10:28 - 'I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.'**

You Will Need:

- Colored construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Glue
- Stickers (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into shapes of hands, one for each child.
- Write the memory verse on a large piece of paper or whiteboard for all the children to see.

Do This:

1. Give each child a hand-shaped piece of construction paper and markers or crayons. Ask them to decorate their hand with colors, stickers, or drawings that make them happy.
2. Once they are done decorating, help them write the memory verse on their paper hand. Younger children may need assistance with writing.
3. Talk about the meaning of the verse, emphasizing that just like they are holding their paper hand, Jesus holds us in His hand and gives us eternal life. No one can take us away from His love and protection. Encourage them to place their decorated hand somewhere they can see it every day as a reminder of Jesus' promise.

## **Bible Interactive Experience**

### You'll Need:

- A small plush sheep for each child
- A large area to play a game (like a room or outdoor space)
- Blue painters tape
- A picture of Jesus (to be the shepherd)
- A printed copy of John 10:28 for each child

### Get Ready:

1. Use the painters tape to create a large square on the floor, big enough for all the children to stand in. This will be the "sheep pen."
2. Place the picture of Jesus on one side of the sheep pen.
3. Hand out the plush sheep to each child as they arrive, explaining that this sheep represents them.

### Do this:

1. Gather the children and read John 10:28 together: "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand."
2. Explain that Jesus is like a shepherd who keeps us safe (the sheep) in His hand, and nothing can take us away from Him, showing them the eternal security we have.
3. **\*\*Game Time: "Shepherd Says"\*\*-** Similar to "Simon Says," you will be the shepherd (representing Jesus), and the children will follow your instructions to understand how Jesus guides us. However, they should only move if you say "Shepherd says" before the instruction. Use commands like "Shepherd says, jump like a joyful sheep," "Shepherd says, curl up like a sleeping sheep," or "Run to the sheep pen," without saying "Shepherd says" to trick them. If someone moves without "Shepherd says," they have to do a silly dance or action before rejoining the game.

4. After playing, gather the children in the sheep pen and explain that just like in the game when they listened to the shepherd, in real life, we listen to Jesus, our Shepherd. Because we are His sheep, we have eternal life, and nothing can snatch us away from His love and protection.
5. Close with a prayer, thanking Jesus for being our Good Shepherd and asking Him to help us listen to His voice.

## Snack Activity: Shepherd's Forever Fold Snack

You'll Need:

- Mini marshmallows
- Pretzel sticks
- Chocolate chips
- Small paper plates
- A microwave-safe bowl and a spoon

Get Ready: Place a small amount of chocolate chips in the microwave-safe bowl. Microwave them for 30 seconds or until melted, making sure to watch closely so the chocolate doesn't burn. Stir the chocolate until it's smooth.

Do this:

1. Tell the kids, 'Today, we're learning about how Jesus keeps us safe forever, just like a shepherd keeps his sheep safe. Our verse is John 10:28, where Jesus says that no one can snatch us out of His hand.'
2. Have the children use the pretzel sticks to make a 'pen' on their paper plates. This represents the safety and security we have with Jesus.
3. Next, let the kids dip mini marshmallows into the melted chocolate and place them inside their pretzel pen. Explain that the marshmallows are like us, and the chocolate is

like Jesus' love, holding us securely in His care. Remind them, 'Just like these marshmallows are safe in their pen, we are safe and secure with Jesus forever.'

## Game Activity: Shepherd's Path

You'll Need:

- Sidewalk chalk
- A large, open outdoor area (like a playground or a driveway)
- Small stones or beanbags (one for each child)

Get Ready: Draw a large, winding path on the ground with the sidewalk chalk. Make sure there are clear start and end points. Along the path, draw several 'safe spots' (large enough for a child to stand in) and label them with 'John 10:28'. At the end of the path, draw a big, welcoming circle and write 'Eternal Security' inside it.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that they are going to play a game called 'Shepherd's Path'.

The path represents our journey with Jesus, the safe spots are His promises of eternal security, and the end circle is our forever home with Him.

2. Each child takes a turn tossing their stone or beanbag onto the path. They must hop along the path, stepping only on the path lines or inside the safe spots, to retrieve their stone or beanbag. If they step off the path or miss a safe spot, they go back to the start and wait for their next turn.

3. The goal is to reach the 'Eternal Security' circle at the end of the path. Once everyone has reached the end, gather the children and remind them that just like in the game, Jesus guides us and keeps us safe on our journey, promising us eternal life with Him, just as John 10:28 says.

## Craft Activity: Eternal Security Sheep

You'll Need:

- White and black construction paper
- Cotton balls
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers
- A printed or written copy of John 10:28

Get Ready: Cut out sheep shapes from the white construction paper. Write John 10:28 on the black construction paper to be used as the sheep's head.

Do this:

1. Glue the cotton balls onto the sheep shape to make the sheep's fluffy body. Make sure to leave space for the head.
2. Cut out the scripture from the black construction paper and glue it as the sheep's head.
3. Use markers to add eyes, a nose, and a mouth to the sheep's head. Discuss with the children how just like the sheep is safe and secure with its fluffy wool, we are eternally secure with Jesus, as John 10:28 tells us.

## Prayer Activity: Safe in Jesus' Hands

You'll Need:

- A small toy sheep for each child
- A picture of Jesus (or a shepherd) large enough for all to see
- Sticky notes and pens



Get Ready: Write John 10:28 on the board or a large piece of paper where all the kids can see it. Make sure you have enough toy sheep for each child.

Do this:

1. Start by reading John 10:28 aloud to the children: 'I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.' Explain that in this verse, Jesus is like a shepherd who keeps his sheep safe. We are like the sheep, and Jesus promises to keep us safe forever.
2. Give each child a toy sheep and a sticky note. Ask them to write their name on the sticky note and stick it to their sheep. This represents them being safe in Jesus' hands.
3. Gather the children in a circle and place the picture of Jesus (or the shepherd) in the center. Have each child come up and place their sheep near the picture, saying, 'I am safe in Jesus' hands.' Finish by praying together, thanking Jesus for keeping us safe forever and asking for help to always trust in His care.