

Trusting In God

PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

Theme: Trust in God, not man

Scripture: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Memory Verse: Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. -
Jeremiah 17:7

The Children's Sermon

Alright, kids, today we're going to talk about something really important and that's Trusting in God. Now, imagine you're outside, and you see two branches. One is all dried up, and if you touch it, it might even break because it's so weak. But the other one is different, it's green, and if you touch it, it feels alive and strong. This is just like us when we think about Trusting in God.

So, we have a choice to make. We can turn away from God and be like this dried up branch, really brittle and weak (snap the branch), or we can decide that Trusting in God is the way to go. If we trust Him, we'll be like the green branch, growing strong and knowing that God is always there, helping us every step of the way. Which one sounds better to you? Turning away from God (hold up dry branch), or Trusting in God (hold up flowering branch)?

Oh, and there's something else I want you to know. We might be able to trick our friends sometimes, but we can't ever trick God. He knows us better than anyone else, even better than our best friend or our mom and dad. It's like when you wear a costume on Halloween. You might dress up as a superhero or a princess, but underneath, you're still

you. God knows who we are under all our "costumes." He knows if we're really Trusting in God or if we're just pretending.

God looks at our hearts, the inside part of us that feels love, joy, sadness, and fear. He knows if we're being real or just putting on a show. So, if we're only pretending to trust Him, He knows that too. But here's the amazing part: God loves us so much that He wants us to trust Him for real, from the inside out, not just pretend.

Now, why is Trusting in God so important? Well, when we trust God, it's like we're planting ourselves by a big, beautiful river. Even when it gets super hot and everything else is drying up, we stay green and full of life because we're close to the water. Trusting in God keeps us strong, just like that river keeps the plants strong.

But how do we show we're Trusting in God? It's in the little things. Like, when you're scared at night, you can pray and trust God to keep you safe. Or when you're worried about a test, you can trust God to help you remember what you studied. Trusting in God means believing He's there for us, even when things get tough.

And when we trust God, we start to change. We become more loving, more patient, and kinder to the people around us. It's like Trusting in God fills us up with so much goodness that it just spills out onto everyone we meet.

But remember, Trusting in God isn't always easy. Sometimes, it can feel really hard, especially when things don't go the way we want them to. But that's when we need to trust Him the most. It's like when you're learning to ride a bike. At first, you might fall and get a few scrapes, but you keep getting back on because you trust that you'll learn

how to do it. Trusting in God is like that. Even when we fall, we keep trusting Him, and He helps us get back up.

So, this week, let's practice Trusting in God. When something worries you or makes you scared, talk to God about it. Tell Him how you're feeling and ask Him to help you trust Him more. And remember, God is always listening. He loves it when we talk to Him, and He loves helping us grow stronger in our trust.

Let's pray together now.

Dear God, thank you for always being there for us. Help us to keep Trusting in God, no matter what happens. We want to be like the green branch, full of life and strong because we're connected to You. Help us to remember that You're always with us, helping us, and loving us. Amen.

So, kids, let's keep Trusting in God every day, in every way. And just like that green branch, we'll grow strong and beautiful, full of life and love.

Bible Memory Verse

Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. - Jeremiah 17:7

You Will Need:

- Construction paper (various colors)
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Markers or crayons

-Stickers (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into large heart shapes, one for each child.
- Prepare a sample heart to show as an example, decorated with words from the memory verse and other decorations.

Do This:

1. Give each child a large heart shape and ask them to decorate it with markers or crayons. Encourage them to write the memory verse on the heart or help them write it if they are too young.
2. While they are decorating, talk to them about what it means to trust in God and how we can be blessed when we put our trust in Him.
3. After they have finished decorating, allow them to use glue sticks and stickers to add extra decoration to their hearts. Conclude the activity by gathering the children and having them share their hearts and say the memory verse together.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A large picture of a tree and a picture of a desert (or create these environments in a corner of your room with simple props)
- Two pots with soil (one with a healthy plant and one with a withered plant or just dry soil)
- Watering can
- Heart-shaped stickers or cutouts
- Simple illustrations of trusting in God (e.g., praying, reading the Bible) and trusting in man (e.g., following a crowd)

Get Ready:

- Set up the tree and desert pictures on opposite sides of the room.
- Place the pot with the healthy plant near the tree picture and the pot with the withered plant or dry soil near the desert picture.
- Have the heart-shaped stickers or cutouts and the illustrations ready for the children to use.

Do this:

1. **Introduction**: Briefly tell the children that we're going to learn about trusting in God instead of people. Explain that when we trust in God, we are like a tree planted by water (show the healthy plant), but when we trust only in people, we are like a plant in the desert (show the withered plant or dry soil).
2. **Activity**: Give each child a heart sticker or cutout. Ask them to choose between the illustrations of trusting in God or trusting in man. Depending on their choice, they will place their heart on the tree side or the desert side of the room. Explain in simple terms why trusting in God makes us strong and healthy like the tree by the water.
3. **Watering the Plants**: Show the children how the healthy plant needs water to grow. Let them take turns watering the healthy plant, explaining that just like the plant needs water, we need God's love and trust to grow strong. The withered plant or dry soil can be shown as an example of what happens when we don't rely on God (no need to water the withered plant).
4. **Conclusion**: Gather the children back and recap that trusting in God makes our hearts happy and strong, just like the healthy plant. Finish with a short prayer, asking God to help us trust in Him always.

Snack Activity: Tree of Trust Fruit Snack

You'll Need:

- Green grapes
- Pretzel sticks
- Cream cheese or peanut butter (check for allergies)
- Plate

Get Ready: Wash the grapes and dry them.

Do this:

1. Arrange the pretzel sticks on the plate to form the trunk and branches of a tree. This represents the strength and stability that comes from trusting in God, not in man.
2. Use the green grapes to create the leaves of the tree by attaching them to the pretzel branches with a small dab of cream cheese or peanut butter. This shows how trust in God brings growth and life, much like a tree planted by the water.
3. As you build your tree, talk about how Jeremiah 17:5-10 compares trusting in God to a tree planted by the water. Explain that just like the tree needs water to grow, we need to trust in God to flourish in life.

Game Activity: Tree of Trust

You'll Need:

- A large picture of a tree without leaves
- Green paper leaves
- Tape or sticky tack
- Markers

Get Ready: Before the activity, hang the large picture of the tree on a wall accessible to the children. Write simple phrases of trust in God on the leaves, such as 'God is always

with us', 'God loves us', and 'We can pray anytime'. Prepare enough leaves for each child to have one.

Do this:

1. Gather the children around the tree and explain that just like a tree needs water and sunlight to grow, our trust in God grows when we believe in Him and not just what people say.
2. Give each child a leaf and let them read the phrase with your help. Discuss briefly what the phrase means (e.g., 'God is always with us' means we're never alone because God is with us everywhere).
3. Have each child tape their leaf onto the tree. As they do, encourage them to say, 'I trust in God, not man.' This visual activity helps reinforce the concept of placing our trust in God's hands.

Craft Activity: Trusting Tree Craft

You'll Need:

- Green and brown construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors (use with adult supervision)
- Markers or crayons

Get Ready: Cut the brown construction paper into trunk shapes and the green paper into leafy tree top shapes. Prepare a sample craft to show the children what they will be making.

Do this:

1. Give each child a brown paper trunk and a green paper treetop. Explain that the trunk represents us and the green top is like trusting in God, strong and flourishing.
2. Have them glue the green treetop to the brown trunk to complete their tree. While they do this, talk to them about Jeremiah 17:5-10, explaining that when we trust in God, we are like a tree planted by water, never fearing the heat or drought.
3. Encourage the children to draw faces on their tree trunks with markers or crayons, showing happy trees because they trust in God. Conclude by reminding them that trusting in God makes our lives full and green, just like their trees.

Prayer Activity: Trusting Tree Prayer

You'll Need:

- A small potted plant or tree
- Paper
- Crayons or markers
- Tape

Get Ready: Write out Jeremiah 17:7-8 on a large piece of paper and illustrate it with simple pictures (like a tree, sun, and water) to help explain the concept of trust in God.

Do this:

1. Show the children the potted plant or tree. Explain that just like the tree needs soil, water, and sunlight to grow, we need God's love, words, and promises to grow strong in our faith.
2. Give each child a piece of paper and crayons or markers. Ask them to draw or write something they trust God for (helping them with ideas if needed, like 'helping me when I'm scared' or 'taking care of my family').

3. Once they're done, help them tape their drawings or writings onto the branches or around the pot of the plant or tree. As each child adds their piece, lead them in a simple prayer, thanking God for being trustworthy and asking for help to trust Him more.