

# God's Team

## LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

**Theme:** God's guidance, spiritual victory

**Scripture:** Romans 8:31

**Memory Verse:** If God is for us, who can be against us? - Romans 8:31

## The Children's Sermon

Today there will be a big football game on TV. Does anyone know what it is called?  
(Children respond).

That's right - the Super Bowl. I'm going to be rooting for the Steelers to win. (Explain why). Can some of you tell me why you might like a certain team - in any sport? It doesn't have to be football. (Children respond).

Some people say that they may like a certain team because it is a "winning team," which means that it wins most or all of its games. Did you know that you are part of a winning team? That's right; it's called God's Team. If you've asked Jesus into your heart to be your Savior and Lord, you are a part of God's Team!

Every team has a coach who guides them and helps them to do what they need to do to win the game. We've got the best coach ever—God! He always helps us to do what we need to do to live our lives the right way. Being on God's Team means we listen to Him because He knows the best way for us to go.

A football team has the plans that they need to play the game in its playbook. God has given His plans for our lives in His playbook – the Bible. Just like players study their playbook, we can read the Bible to learn how to be on God's Team and follow His game plan.

Sometimes the game doesn't go the way the players want it to. They get knocked down, or make a mistake and drop the ball. They can get hit from behind when they don't expect it. The players sometimes even get hurt. Our lives can be like that too, but we have teammates (others who have asked Jesus into their hearts) to help to pick us up, brush us off, and help us finish the game. Being on God's Team means we're never alone.

When you're on a sports team, you practice a lot, right? You learn the rules of the game and how to play your best. Being on God's Team is similar. We practice by praying, reading the Bible, and doing what it says. This helps us to play our part on God's Team the best we can.

And just like on any team, on God's Team, everyone has a special role. Some of us are really good at encouraging others, some are great sharers, and some are super helpers. God has given each of us special gifts to use on His Team. It's like being a part of a big, loving family where everyone has something important to do.

But what happens when we make a mistake? What if we do something that isn't part of God's game plan? Well, just like a good coach, God doesn't kick us off the team. Instead, He helps us learn from our mistakes. He forgives us and helps us get back in the game. That's because God's Team is about love and forgiveness.

Sometimes, being on God's Team means we face challenges. Maybe someone at school is not being very nice, or we have a hard time with our homework. It's like facing a tough opponent in a game. But remember, God is our coach, and He gives us strength and wisdom to face these challenges. And just like teammates help each other, we can help our friends too.

You know what is the best part? God's Team is always open for more players. We can invite our friends, family, and even people we don't know very well to join God's Team. Sharing God's love is like passing the ball in a game. When we share His love, we're helping others to know the joy of being on God's Team.

In the end, we will always win, because we are on God's Team. Someday we will go to Heaven and live forever with Him, and that's even better than winning the Super Bowl! Being on God's Team is the best team to be on because the victory is eternal.

Dear Lord, thank you for always being with us to help and guide us in all that we do, and for giving others to help us as well. Thank you for letting us be a part of God's Team. Help us to follow Your game plan, use our gifts to help the team, and invite others to join Your team. Amen.

## Bible Memory Verse

### **If God is for us, who can be against us? - Romans 8:31**

You Will Need:

- Colored paper
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors

-Stickers (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the colored paper into large, shield-like shapes ahead of time.
- Set up a table with markers, crayons, scissors, and stickers for decoration.

Do This:

1. Give each child a paper shield and explain that just like a shield protects a warrior, God protects us from things that could harm our spirit.
2. Ask the children to write the memory verse, 'If God is for us, who can be against us?' on their shield with markers or crayons. They can decorate their shields with stickers or draw pictures that remind them of God's protection and guidance.
3. Have a 'Shield Parade' where the children march around the room with their shields, showing that they remember and believe in the verse. This helps them understand that with God on their side, they can face anything with courage.

## Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A large poster board
- Markers or crayons
- Sticky notes
- Bible

Get Ready:

- Write Romans 8:31 at the top of the poster board: "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

- Draw a path leading to a cross at the other end of the board, symbolizing a journey of faith with God's guidance.
- Prepare a short, simple explanation of the verse, focusing on how God is always with us, guiding us, and giving us victory over challenges.

Do this:

1. **\*\*Introduction to the Theme\*\***: Start by reading Romans 8:31 aloud. Explain that this verse teaches us that with God on our side, we don't need to be afraid of anything. God is like the best guide on a tricky hike; He knows the way and protects us from getting lost or hurt.
2. **\*\*Personal Reflection\*\***: Give each child a sticky note and ask them to think of a time they were scared or faced a challenge. Have them draw or write about that time on their note. Guide them to understand that God was with them, even if they didn't realize it at the time.
3. **\*\*Interactive Bible Map\*\***: Invite the children to come up one by one to place their sticky note somewhere along the path on the poster board. As they do, encourage them to say, "With God, I can overcome." This visual activity helps them see that everyone faces challenges, but with God's guidance, we can reach spiritual victory, symbolized by the cross at the end of the path.
4. **\*\*Closing Prayer\*\***: Finish with a prayer, asking God to help the children remember that He is always with them, guiding them through every challenge, just like Romans 8:31 says.

## Snack Activity: Victory Shields

You'll Need:

- Graham crackers
- Frosting or cream cheese
- Sliced fruit (strawberries, bananas, blueberries)
- Plastic knives or spreaders
- Small paper plates

Get Ready: Gather all your materials on a clean table where each child can reach them. Make sure to wash the fruit and slice it into small pieces that can be easily arranged by the children.

Do this:

1. Give each child a graham cracker on a paper plate. Explain that this cracker is like a shield. In Romans 8:31, the Bible tells us 'If God is for us, who can be against us?' This means with God on our side, we have protection and victory, just like a shield in battle.
2. Have the children spread frosting or cream cheese on their graham cracker using the plastic knives or spreaders. This represents God's guidance and protection over us.
3. Let the children decorate their shields with sliced fruit. Encourage them to create patterns or designs that remind them of victory, joy, and the protection God gives us. As they work, remind them that just like they guide the fruit to make a beautiful design, God guides us in our lives to lead us to victory.

## Game Activity: Victory Path

You'll Need:

- Chalk
- Open space like a driveway or sidewalk
- Small stones or beanbags

Get Ready: Draw a large hopscotch grid on the ground. Instead of numbers, write challenges kids face (like 'Fear', 'Loneliness', 'Bullying') in each box. At the start, write 'Me' and at the end, write 'Victory'.

Do this:

1. Gather the children and explain that life's path has challenges, but with God's guidance, we can reach victory. Romans 8:31 says, 'If God is for us, who can be against us?' This means with God, we can overcome any challenge.
2. Each child takes a turn tossing their stone or beanbag onto the path. They hop over the challenges towards 'Victory', but they must skip the box where their stone lands. Discuss how skipping the box is like having God help us overcome that challenge.
3. When everyone has reached 'Victory', celebrate together. Remind them that with God's help, they can face any challenge and achieve spiritual victory.

## Craft Activity: Victory Shields

You'll Need:

- Cardboard or heavy paper
- Markers or paint
- Glue
- Glitter, stickers, and any other decorations
- A printout of Romans 8:31

Get Ready: Cut the cardboard or heavy paper into shield shapes ahead of time for the younger children. Older children can cut their own with supervision.

Do this:

1. Start by reading Romans 8:31 together: 'If God is for us, who can be against us?' Discuss what this means in terms of God's guidance and how we can have spiritual victory with God on our side.
2. Have each child decorate their shield using markers, paint, and decorations. Encourage them to think about what symbols or words represent God's guidance and victory in their lives. They can write 'Romans 8:31' or 'God is for us' on their shield.
3. Once the shields are decorated, let them share their shield with the group and explain their design. Finish with a prayer, asking God to help them remember that with Him, they can overcome any challenge.

## Prayer Activity: God's Mighty Team

You'll Need:

- A small box or container
- Strips of paper
- Pens or pencils

Get Ready: Write 'Romans 8:31' on the outside of the box or container. This will be our 'Prayer Box.'

Do this:

1. Start by reading Romans 8:31 together: 'If God is for us, who can be against us?' Discuss what this means in simple terms, like having the ultimate friend or superhero on your side.
2. Ask the children to think of times they need guidance or feel like they need a victory, big or small. It could be a test at school, making new friends, or even winning a game.



3. Give each child a strip of paper and a pen. Have them write or draw a prayer request asking for God's guidance or celebrating a victory where they saw God's help. Fold the papers and put them in the 'Prayer Box.'
4. Close with a group prayer, asking God to guide each request in the box, reminding the kids that with God on their team, they have the ultimate victory.