

BIG AND SMALL

WEEK 1

BIG IDEA

We are small, but God is big.

BIBLE

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

FREE TIME

PLAY | Free Time

INSTRUCTIONS: *Tables will be set with games and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins. This is a great opportunity to get to know some kids and work on building relationships.*

QUESTION | Small as an ant or big as a giraffe?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This question will be written on the board as a discussion starter while kids arrive.*
 - **Would you rather be as small as an ant for a day or as big as a giraffe for a day?**

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play a selection of worship music videos during free time. Some may choose to dance along while it may be background music for others.*
- *Alternatively, learn a few of the motions yourself, introduce them to*

the-class and dance along together to kick things off!

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT?

ACTIVITY | Giant Ring Toss

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, cut a few pool noodles in half and tape them to the floor to be the poles for the ring toss. Tape a few noodles into circles to be used as the rings for the ring toss. Alternatively, you can use traffic cones and hula hoops instead.*
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *Get silly with your preteens for this activity! Consider having some kids be the poles and have kids toss inflatable pool rings around them.*
- Hi, everyone! This month is all about big and small things because we are going to talk about our great, big God!
- Today, we're going to play a classic game of ring toss, but bigger!
- **Do you think playing a big version of this small game is going to be easier or harder?** Let's find out!

SO WHAT?

BIBLE STORY | Job's Sufferings

- What's interesting is how big or small something is really depends on who's looking at it. You might have a tall uncle who is more than six feet tall, but compared to a professional basketball player, he might seem small. A tangerine might feel small in your hands, but it's big from

the point of view of a bee.

- Today, we are going to get a glimpse of the way our great, big God looks at things, regardless of how big or small they are.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Encourage the kids to open their Bibles to Job 1:1; 2:1-10 and have them follow along with each verse.*
- For the next several weeks, we are going to hear stories about a man named Job.
- **Who can tell me what it means to be blameless and to have integrity?**
 - To be blameless means that a person hasn't done anything wrong.
 - To have integrity means to consistently do the right thing, even when no one is watching.
 - The Bible uses these two words to describe Job.
- *[Read Job 2:1-3.]*
 - **What do you think was the reason for this heavenly meeting?**
 - The Bible doesn't really say, but in this meeting, God can't stop talking about Job!
 - God was so happy Job didn't give up on God even when things got challenging for him. And let me tell you. . . things got very challenging.
- *[Read Job 2:4-6.]*
 - **What do you think? Do you think Job was only a good guy because God had given him everything he needed?**
 - It didn't matter what anyone else thought because God just knew Job's heart. Job really loved God and not just the things God blessed Job with.
- *[Read Job 2:7-8.]*
 - **Do you think Job stopped loving God when he got sick?**
- *[Job 2:9-10.]*

- Remember that word we talked about? Blameless? Well, Job stayed blameless and kept his integrity, no matter what anyone said. He didn't say anything bad about God, even while he was suffering.
- Job knew that he was just one, small person who was created by a great, big God. Job knew that if there was a solution, only God would know and be able to make things right.

BIG IDEA | We are small, but God is big.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Write the Big Idea in a really small font on a huge piece of paper. Choose a kid to come up to the front and choose a really big magnifying glass to read the Big Idea with. Have the rest of the kids repeat after you.*
- **Who can come up here and read what this says?**
- **We are small, but God is big!** Let's say it together this time!
- No matter what comes our way, God is always bigger than any problem we may face!

(OPTIONAL) VIDEO | Big and Small, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of [Grow TV](#).*

NOW WHAT?

STORY | My "Job" Experience

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Share a story about a time in your life when you experienced a tough time similar to Job. Share with the kids how you got through it and why you still trust God.*
- **Can you share a time when you had a difficult time?** Maybe it was a trip to the dentist or starting a new school. We all go through tough

times.

- Even when times are hard, we can feel comforted because God is with us. **We are small, but God is big!**

REFLECTION | This is Small, but God is Big

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Invite the kids to think of their own scenarios that might make them nervous or anxious (e.g., being the new kid at school, being sick, doing something new for the first time, etc.) Help them reflect on the Big Idea.*
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *Give each preteen an index card and have them write about a time when something felt overwhelmingly big to them and they felt helpless. Encourage them to write as tiny as possible. Once they are done, encourage them to flip the card over and write "GOD" in large letters.*
- **Are there things in your life that make you feel worried or scared?**
- Let's think through this together. Help me complete this sentence: "[. . .] is small, but God is big!" (e.g., "Going to a new school is small, but God is big," etc.)
- **How does knowing that we are small but God is big help us face tough times?**
- We can trust God with every part of our lives. God isn't too big to face any hard thing we may face.

MEMORY VERSE | Mystery Box

- Each month we work together to memorize a verse from the Bible. The Bible is God's word and shows us what He is like. Our verse this month reminds us how BIG God is.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Show the kids one small box and one big box. In each box, there will be a different way the kids can recite the verse. For example, box one can say, "Hand motions," in which a volunteer will show the kids hand motions for the verse, and box two can say, "Sing," in which the volunteer will sing the verse in a catchy way and have the kids repeat.-*
- **"God's voice is glorious in the thunder.
We can't even imagine the greatness of his power." Job 37:5**

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for all the good things you do for us and for never leaving us alone, even during the tough times. Even though we are small, we know that you are big! Help us to keep our trust and faith in you no matter what comes our way. Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What two words does God use to describe Job?**
- **What are some ways Job suffered?**
- **Does Job do anything wrong while suffering?**
- **Read Psalm 8:3-4. How does it make you feel to look up at the stars and know that they were made by God's own hands?**
- **How does it make you feel to know God is so big?**
- **How do we know God is with us even when things are hard?**
- **What can we do when we go through tough times?**
- **We are small, but God is big!** And God cares about us in big, unimaginable ways.

MEMORY VERSE | Job 37:5 (NLT)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Practice this month's memory verse together.*
- *Award tokens to any kids that can say the verse from memory.*
- Let's practice this month's memory verse together!
- **"God's voice is glorious in the thunder.
We can't even imagine the greatness of his power."**