

TODDLER EXTRA HOUR

WE CAN LOVE GOD!

The EXTRA HOUR materials included here offer the same type of activities as the first hour. Children will continue exploring that they can thank and show love to God.

LESSON PATH

BIBLE BASIS: John 9:1-11 and 35-38

MEMORY WORDS: “THANK YOU, GOD!” (BASED ON PSALM 100:1)

LESSON FOCUS: WE CAN THANK AND SHOW LOVE TO GOD

MORE! WHERE LEARNING HAPPENS

Exploring What They See

- o Table: cookie sheet with items children use for seeing (see activity), materials for More! Craft Time (see below)
- o Story Rug: materials for Bible Step—Another Way (see below)
- o Balls: balls of different colors and sizes, laundry basket (or large box)
- o Bubbles: bubble solution and bubble wand
- o Home Living: several baby dolls (or stuffed animals), bath towels, washcloths

MORE! MUSIC TIME

- o copy of the “We Can Love God Together” family page from the first hour reproducible pages (optional: puppet used in first-hour lesson)

MORE! CRAFT TIME

- o construction paper in a variety of colors, scissors, white paper plates, glue

GOODBYE TIME

- o flashlight, copies of the “We Can Love God Together” family page from the first hour reproducible pages

MORE! WHERE LEARNING HAPPENS

Exploring What They See

Your children will continue to spend their time in class moving, exploring, choosing, and playing in the learning environment. While the children are busy exploring and playing, you can gather a small group to hear the Bible story from *John 9*. You can also walk around the room, visit the children at different activities, and use the Bible story stick puppets to engage children in the Bible Story Time.

This Extra Hour lesson is designed to allow toddlers and two year olds to play independently. This frees you to present the Bible Step—Another Way, More! Music Time, and More! Craft Time either to individuals or to small groups throughout the class time.

Set up a few new activity areas as suggested. Greet new children as they arrive and follow check-in procedures. Have another adult (or teen) helper guide each child to an activity area and involve the child.

Table

On a cookie sheet, place several items that children use for seeing (glasses with lenses removed, sunglasses, toy binoculars, child-safe mirrors). As the children explore each item, talk about how they can be used to see things that God made. Let each child look into the mirror. Say, **Thank You, God, for making** ___ (child's name). Remind the children that God made our eyes. **Thank You, God, for making our eyes. We love You, God!** Encourage verbal children to say "thank You" or "God."

Story Rug

This is the place to gather children for small-group activities. Invite them to the rug for the Bible Step—Another Way. This is also a good place for sharing stories or movement and the More! Music Time activity.

Balls

Provide balls of different colors and sizes and a laundry basket (or large box). Guide the children to toss balls into the basket. **Where did the balls go? Let's look with our eyes and find the balls.** Pause to let children find and retrieve the balls. Talk about the different colors and sizes. **I'm glad God made our eyes so we can see balls and other fun things. Let's say "thank You" to God.** Have children fold their hands. Say, **Thank You, God! We love You!** Encourage verbal children to say "thank You" or "God."

Bubbles

Use bubble solution and a bubble wand to blow bubbles. While children are trying to catch the bubbles, talk about eyes. It's fun to use our eyes to see bubbles. **It's fun to try to catch bubbles. I am happy that God gave us eyes to see bubbles.**

Home Living

Provide several baby dolls (or stuffed animals), bath towels, and washcloths. Show how to lay the towels out as beds. The children can pretend to put the dolls to bed. **Lie down with the babies. Close your eyes and pretend to sleep.** Have the children do so. **Time to wake up! Open your eyes.** Have the children "wake" the dolls and pretend to wash the dolls' eyes. **When we go to sleep, we close our eyes. When we wake up, we can wash our eyes with water. I am happy that God made our eyes.**

BIBLE STEP—ANOTHER WAY

TALK TIME

MATERIALS:

- o flashlight, sheet of black construction paper

While the children are busy exploring and playing, you can gather a small group to hear the Bible story. Use this rhyme to capture their attention.

Point to your eyes. (*Point to eye.*)

Watch and see.

Put your hand in your lap (*Fold hands.*)

As we sit quietly.

Turn on the flashlight. **A flashlight helps us see when it is dark.** Place a sheet of black construction paper on the floor in front of the children. Shine the flashlight on the paper. Ask the children to follow the light with their eyes as you move the flashlight to shine the light across the paper.

Ask the children to point to their eyes. **God made our eyes to see. What do you see with your eyes?** Encourage verbal children to respond. One at a time, point to each child and say, **I see ___ 's** (name of child) **___** (color) **eyes. I'm happy God made our eyes. Today we are learning about a time when Jesus helped a man whose eyes did not work. The man could not see anything around him.**

BIBLE STORY TIME

John 9:1-11 and 35-38

MATERIALS:

- o flashlight, Bible, stick puppets of Jesus and the man prepared for first-hour lesson

Shine the flashlight on your Bible. **Who can tell me what is the name of this book is?** Give each child the opportunity to say "Bible." **Yes. This is a Bible. It tells us about God and Jesus.** Open the Bible to John 9. **In today's story, Jesus helped a man who could not see.**

Use the stick puppets prepared for the first-hour Bible Story Time. Ask two children to hold up the puppets as you tell the Bible story. Be sure they show the man with eyes closed at the beginning of the story. Encourage other children to do the actions with you.

There was a man who couldn't see.

(*Hold hands over eyes.*)

One day Jesus walked past the man.

(*Walk fingers up an arm.*)

Jesus wanted to help the man, so Jesus made some mud.

(*Pretend to pat mud between fingertips.*)

Then Jesus gently put the mud on the man's eyes.

(*Touch fingers lightly to closed eyes.*)

Jesus told the man to go to a pool (*Walk fingers up arms.*) **and wash his eyes.** (*Pretend to wipe eyes.*)

When the mud was gone, the man could see!

(Point to corners of eyes.)

The man knelt down. He thanked and showed love to Jesus.

We can thank and show love to God too.

(Fold hands.)

Thank You, Jesus, for helping the man.

Thank You, God, for our eyes. In Jesus' name, amen.

Encourage verbal children to say "thank You" or "God."

Give each child a turn holding one of the story figures as you ask these questions.

o **Who did Jesus help?** (A man who couldn't see.)

o **Who did the man show love to when he could see?** (Jesus)

MORE! MUSIC TIME

MATERIALS:

o copy of the "We Can Love God Together" family page (optional: puppet used in first hour)

Sing favorite children's songs about Jesus. If desired, use the Praising Penelope puppet to sing along. Repeat the "Thank You, God" song used during the first hour. The words and suggested actions are included on the "We Can Love God Together" family page. Remind the children that they are showing love to God when they sing songs and say "thank You" to Him.

MORE! CRAFT TIME

MATERIALS:

o construction paper in a variety of colors, scissors, white paper plates, glue

Before class, cut an assortment of shapes from different colors of construction paper. Write on the paper plates, "Thank You, God, for my eyes." Prepare one plate for each child.

Give each child a paper plate and some shapes. Put dots of glue on the plates and encourage children to press shapes onto their plates. Say, "**I see** ____ (child's name) **pressing a red circle onto his plate.**" Do this for each child.

When all the plates are finished, ask children to show their plates. **God made our eyes to see all these pretty colors. Let's clap and shout a happy "thank You" to God.** Encourage each child to clap. Verbal children can shout, "Thank You, God!" Remind the children that they are showing love to God when they clap and say "thank You" to Him.

Allow children to return to favorite activities as time allows. Play quiet music and provide an area for resting, too.

GOODBYE TIME

Use the flashlight to play a game with children until their parents come. Shine the light around the room and then stop to focus on someone or something. Have the children point to who or what the light is shining on. Say, **Thank You, God, for** ____ (person or object).

Tell each child goodbye. Send home any craft activities made and a copy of the "We Can Love God Together" family page.