Grow

WEEK 1
PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

BRAVE

BIG IDEA

God knows who I am.

THE BIBLE

David is Anointed: 1 Samuel 16

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Dress Up
- **ACTIVITY** | This or That

TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Worship
- **THE BIG IDEA** | God knows who I am.
- **VIDEO** | Brave, Episode 1
- **SCRIPTURE** | 1 Samuel 16
- **ACTIVITY** | I Am
- **PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- **SNACK** | Anointed with Oil
- **ACTIVITY** | Crown Relay
- **ACTIVITY** | Crown Decorating
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Crown It

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- **ACTIVITY** | Fingerprints
- **ACTIVITY** | David's Harp

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WEEK 1
HACKS FOR TODDLERS

BRAVE

BY KAREN ERNE

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | I Am

Trace each kid's hand and let them use crayons to color in the drawing. Tell the kids that God knows all about them and loves them.

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

Give toddlers stickers like these to decorate their coloring page.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

KAREN ERNE



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Karen is a volunteer in the preschool area of Hallmark Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas. She has about nineteen years of experience as a Preschool Minister in local churches.

Karen's passion is connecting little ones to the truths of the Bible. Kids learn when they are playing, so Karen writes fun lessons that will help teachers show kids how much Jesus loves them.

Karen is a wife and a mom. She and her husband, Ed, have four kids aged ten through seventeen. Their family loves hiking, fishing, and fossil hunting together.

When Karen is not doing a Bible study with her church friends or helping out at her kids' school, she is often sewing. Karen makes stuffed animals, blankets, toys, and even clothes with her sewing machine.

If you'd like to chat about how your church can more strategically connect parents with ways to teach babies, ones, and twos about the Bible, reach out. She would love to connect with you!

ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Elle Campbell, Brooklyn Lindsey, Amber Stephens, Linda Moon.

TEACHING VIDEOS: Stephanie Whitacre, Elle Campbell.

TODDLER HACKS: Karen Erne.

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WEEK 1
PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

BRAVE

BIG IDEA

God knows who I am.

THE BIBLE

David is Anointed: 1 Samuel 16

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Dress Up

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Place a prop box in the middle of the room and ask the kids to dress up in what they want to be when they grow up. When all kids have a costume or accessories, let them tell the group what they want to be and why.*
- Hi, friends! I'm so glad you are here today. For the next few weeks, we are going to learn about what it means to be brave.
- Today, we'll learn about a shepherd boy named David who was chosen for a very special job, just like the jobs you dressed up for today! Even when I dress up, God know who I am.

ACTIVITY | This or That

- Every day, we make a lot of choices, so we are going to play a fun game about the choices we make. Our Bible story is about a choice God made for the person that would one day become a king.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Place a long line of tape on the floor, long enough to allow each kid to have a space along it. Tell the group to stand on one side of the tape. Tell them to move to one side or stay where they are based on how they answer your question [For example, "Would you rather eat eggs (indicate the right side of the tape line) or cereal (indicate the left side of the tape line) for breakfast?"]. Consider the following suggestions or add your own:*
  - Pool or beach?
  - Cookies or cake?
  - Hot dog or hamburger?
  - Ice cream or popsicle?

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- Short car ride or long airplane ride?
- Winter or summer?
- Toys or video games?

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play or show these songs: Brave by Saddleback Kids and Who You Say I Am by Hillsong Worship*

THE BIG IDEA | God knows who I am.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Challenge the kids to count every hair on their friend's head! Give them a few seconds as they try to count.*
- We would be here all week, or even all month trying to count the hairs on our friend's head. But you know who does know how many hairs are on your head? God!
- God knows everything about us. God knows what we did yesterday and God knows what we are doing tomorrow!
- This week's Big Idea is: **God knows who I am!**

VIDEO | Brave, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's preschool teaching video.*

SCRIPTURE | 1 Samuel 16

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your group, or paraphrase.*
- **What job did God give Samuel?** God told Samuel to go anoint the next king.
- **What was Samuel afraid of?** Sometimes, when God asks us to do something, we are afraid because of what might happen. That's a chance for us to trust God!
- **Who told Samuel that David was the one?** God told Samuel that David would be the next king.
- The job God chose for David was not an easy one, and remember, David was pretty young. He didn't have a lot of experience doing what God chose him to do, but God knew that David was the perfect choice. And God knows who I am. God has chosen special things for me and you to do, too.

ACTIVITY | I Am

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Write each kid's name on the middle of a piece of paper, or if they can write their own name, encourage them to do it. Have them draw pictures or write words around their name, about things they can do and things they like.*
  - 🛠 **TODDLER HACK:** *Trace each kid's hand and let them use crayons to color in the drawing. Tell the kids that God knows all about them and loves them.*
- David was chosen for a very special and important job. And just like David, God created you to do great things.

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- God knows who you are because God made you special and with such great qualities.

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank You for making us special. Thank You for making us brave, smart, strong, creative, and kind. We are so happy You know who we are!

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Anointed with Oil

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give the kids some plain bread or crackers and offer them a small dot of olive oil to dip their bread in to taste.*
- This oil is like the oil Samuel used to show that David would be the next king.

ACTIVITY | Crown Relay

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Get two plastic dress up crowns and put them on one side of the room. Split the kids into two teams to have a relay race. Guide the kids to run to the crown, put it on the next kid in the line, and then have the next kid run and put it back across the room. Repeat the game until all of the kids have had a turn.*

ACTIVITY | Crown Decorating

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Prepare a paper crown for each kid and some decorative gem stickers. As the kids finish decorating their crowns, help them put it on. Encourage them to wear it around the room. Tell the kids that God chose them just like God chose David.*
- Samuel went to Jesse and asked to see his sons. **Did God choose the son that was the oldest and the strongest?** No, God chose the smallest son, David.
- Wear this crown and remember that God chose you, too. Maybe not to be a king or queen, but God has wonderful plans for your life!

MEMORY VERSE | Crown It

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids hold out their hands and pretend to be holding an imaginary crown. Have kids repeat the memory verse after you, little bits at a time, and when you are finished, have them put the crown on their heads. You can also have them "crown" each other.*

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a coloring page along with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.*

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Remind them of today's story, memory verse, and Big Idea as they color!

🛠 **TODDLER HACK:** *Give toddlers stickers like these to decorate their coloring page.*

ACTIVITY | Fingerprints

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Get a washable ink pad and help the kids press one finger on it. Then, push their fingers onto a sheet of paper.*
- Your fingerprints are special. No one has fingerprints like you. Did you know God knows every part of your fingerprints? I am so glad God knows who I am.

ACTIVITY | David's Harp

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Gather stringed instruments like a guitar, autoharp, or ukulele. Show the kids how to strum the strings to produce a sound.*
- David played an instrument like this. David played a harp. Harps have strings like this. You can play music like David did.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.

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