

# BACKYARD BIBLE CLUB

## DAY 1

**TRUTH:** God Made Everything

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Genesis 1:1; Colossians 1:16; Psalm 19:1

### MEMORY VERSE:

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. Colossians 1:16 (NLT)

### ACTIVITY:

Go on a nature walk around the neighborhood and collect things that God created. Practice the memory verse as you walk and talk about how creative God is through His creation.

*Materials needed: plastic bag for each child with the memory verse & their name.*

### CRAFT:

On a piece of card stock glue & paint the items found from the nature walk. \*Elementary-age kids – write the memory verse on the top of the page.

*Materials needed: One piece of card stock for each child, glue, paint, & scissors.*

### SNACK:

Dirt pudding cups – Fill a cup with chocolate pudding, top with crumbled chocolate sandwich cookies and add a couple of gummy worms over it all.



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## DAY 2

**TRUTH:** God Loves Me

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Proverbs 139:14; Matthew 10:29-31

**MEMORY VERSE:**

So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows. Matthew 10:31 (NLT)

**ACTIVITY:**

Put a mirror in a box, but don't tell the children what is in the box. One at a time have them take a close look in the box to see what God loves the most. Make sure they don't tell anyone what they see! Pass it around and let each child look inside one at a time. When everyone has seen themselves, discuss how much God loves each one of us.

Next send the kids on a "love hunt" looking for cutout hearts you have hidden. Each time a child finds a heart they are to yell, "God loves me!"

*Materials needed: box with a mirror inside; lots of cutout hearts*

OR

Read Matthew 10:29-31. What does this verse tell us? How does it make you feel when it tells you that God knows the hairs on your head?

Divide the kids into small groups. Give each team a can of whipped topping and a designated amount of chocolate chips or marshmallows. When you say, "Go!" each team will squirt the whipped topping onto one team member's head. Then as quickly as they can, they put the chocolate chips or marshmallows onto the person's head ONE AT A TIME. The winning team is the first one to get all of the items stuck in the whipped topping. Have a hose nearby to wash off.

*Materials Needed: can of whipped topping for each team, chocolate chips or marshmallows*

**CRAFT:**

"God Loves Me" necklace - String a fun foam heart, "God Loves Me" written on cardstock, and fun foam heart on a piece of yarn. Let the kids wear their necklace the rest of the day.

*Materials needed: (for each child) 2 fun foam/cardstock hearts, 1 "God Loves Me" phrase written on cardstock, yarn*



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OR

“God Loves Me” Figure – Have each child decorate one side of a paper cut out of boy or girl to look like him/herself. Allow them to be as creative as they want to be – crayons, cut paper, yarn. On the other side have child write his/her name at top of figure. Write different words on the figure that represent how God sees that child.

*Materials needed: Paper cut outs for each child, Items to decorate cut outs (crayons, paper, glue, scissors, you decide), pencils*

## **SNACK:**

Ice cream “hairs on your head” – Give each child a scoop of ice cream and allow them to decorate with whipped topping and chocolate chips or marshmallows.

*Materials needed: ice cream, whipped topping, marshmallows and chocolate chips*



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## DAY 3

**TRUTH:** God has a rescue plan

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** John 3:16, Luke 24:1-12, Matthew 27:27-31

### MEMORY VERSE:

Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He isn't here! He is risen from the dead!  
Luke 24:5-6 (NLT)

### ACTIVITY:

Wiped Clean – Let the kids play with a bunch of newspaper, encouraging them to crumple the pieces into balls and throw them into a hoop or basket. After playing with the newspaper a while have the kids all look at their hands. Talk about how the dirt on their hands is like sin in our hearts. Give each child a wipe and have them clean their hands with it. Explain how Jesus takes away our sin and makes our hearts clean when we trust in Him.

### CRAFT:

The Gospel with stickers

- Black represents our sin. All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
- Red represents the blood of Jesus Christ
- White represents how we are washed clean and seen as sinless when we accept Jesus Christ as our own Lord.
- Blue represents being baptized.
- Green represents growing in the Lord.
- Gold/Yellow represents eternity in heaven with Jesus.

*Materials needed: Cardstock & circle colored stickers*

OR

Gospel bracelets

- Black represents our sin. They are reminded that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
- Red represents the blood of Jesus Christ, the perfect sacrifice.
- White represents how we are made clean through Jesus' blood. By accepting His sacrifice on our behalf, God sees us through the righteousness of Christ, and our sins are forgiven.
- Blue represents being baptized. God's Word tells us this is an outward act of an inward decision; and, once we decide to make Jesus Christ our Lord, we are to follow by obediently being baptized.
- Green represents growing in the Lord. Once we accept Jesus as our Savior, we need to learn more about Him. We develop a closer relationship to Him through His Word and through prayer.
- Gold/Yellow represents eternity in heaven with God.

*Materials needed: Yarn & colored beads*



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## **SNACK:**

Roll sugar cookies out and bake. Let the kids spread the peanut butter on the cookie. Break the pretzels and put them on the edges of the cookie. Read Matthew 27 and talk about what Jesus did for us on the cross.

*Materials needed: sugar cookies, peanut butter, pretzels*

OR

Read Luke 24:1-12. Roll up the crescent rolls with the marshmallow in the middle. Make sure the “tomb” is completely closed. Bake at 375 for 10 minutes. Cut open the crescent rolls – the marshmallow is gone just like Jesus body was gone from the tomb!

*Materials needed: Marshmallows & Crescent rolls*



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## DAY 4

**TRUTH:** God wants to spend time with you

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15 – 17

**MEMORY VERSE:**

Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. Mark 10:14 (NLT)

**ACTIVITY:**

Demonstration. Put water and sparkling water in the clear glass. Add food coloring to make it even more fun! Drop one alka seltzer into the water. Ask the kids how this makes them feel. Excited? Then drop a second alka seltzer in the water. It should really be fizzing by now. Explain that God feels excited when we spend time with him. Review ways we can spend time with him.

*Materials Needed: clear glass, water, sparkling water, alka seltzer, food coloring*

AND/OR

Draw pictures of things that you are thankful for. Pray and thank God as you draw for all of these great things.

*Materials Needed: sidewalk chalk*

AND/OR

Worship God together. Sing songs, dance, shout, make a parade to praise him.

*Materials Needed: Music, Songs, optional – musical instruments or things that make noise*

Thankful Game-Have kids pick partners or put them in small groups. Give each pair or group a balloon. Have the kids try to keep the balloon up in the air as long as they can by batting it. Each time they hit the balloon, they shout out something they are thankful to God for.

*Materials Needed: Balloons (one for every two kids)*



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## **CRAFT:**

Make a Joyful Noise Instrument - Give each child two paper plates. Children can decorate the paper plates. Fill them with beans and staple or tape the edges shut. Then make a joyful noise to the Lord!

*Materials Needed: paper plates, beans, stapler or tape, crayons*

## AND/OR

Praying Hands - Trace each child's hands and cut them out. Children can color on their paper hands. Punch a hole in a finger and tie them together with yarn. Make a loop so it can hang on a doorknob or bed post. Write today's truth on the hands. Children can take them home as a reminder to pray.

*Materials Needed: construction paper, scissors, yarn, hole punch, crayons*

## AND/OR

Prayer Pail - Have the children decorate the container as they wish. Help the kids write one name on each craft stick of someone they would like to pray for. Put all of the sticks in the Prayer Pail and let them take it home to remind them to pray for those people.

*Materials Needed: Craft sticks, pail/baggie/other container, markers, stickers, etc.*

## **SNACK:**

Show the children unpopped popcorn and tell them that the kernels are like children who haven't found Jesus or don't know to ever spend time with Him. Without the warmth of God's love they haven't burst to life. Pop the popcorn. When God's love warms our hearts we burst with happiness, and praises to Jesus burst out of us. We can't help but tell others how much we love Him and how great we think He is. This makes us want to spend more time with Him! Eat the popcorn!

*Materials needed: unpopped popcorn kernels; hot air popcorn popper*



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## DAY 5

**TRUTH:** God finds joy in us

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Psalm 118:24; Neh 8:10

**MEMORY VERSE:**

This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24 (NLT)

*Plan a fun activity for the whole group as your last day celebration. Use one of the ideas below or come up with your own way to celebrate.*

- Go to the Arboretum & have a picnic.
- Wear bathing suits, run through the sprinklers, play in baby pools, throw water balloons. Get soaked and have a blast!
- Movie Play Date - Watch "What's in the Bible" or "Veggie Tales" with popcorn and M&Ms.
- Decorate cookies and eat them with your new friends.
- Go to the zoo or aquarium and talk about what you learned Day 1 about our Creator.

