

LESSON 3

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Forgives

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 1–2

GOD'S BIG STORY: We might be tempted to hide our sins from God and others, but when we admit our sins to God, He eagerly forgives us and helps us become more like Him.

Activity: Jesus Is the Bridge

Activity: Peek-a-Boo

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Bubble Prayers

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Activity: Jesus Is the Bridge

Gather the kids and welcome them to church. **Hi, friends! It's so good to see you all! Have you ever seen a bridge or traveled on one?** Allow the kids to respond. **A bridge gets us from one place to another. Sometimes there's a river or a large ditch that we need a bridge to cross. Let's make a bridge!**

Divide the group in half and have kids form lines standing shoulder-to-shoulder facing each other. Encourage them to put their hands up, touching the arms of the person across the line, making a bridge in the air.

Let's make a bridge with our arms! Hold your arms up like this and sing with me.

Sing to the tune of "London Bridge Is Falling Down."

**Jesus is the bridge to God,
Bridge to God,
Bridge to God.
Jesus came to save us all,
When we fall down.**

At the end, everyone falls down. Sing the song several times, encouraging kids to join in singing if they're able.

That was fun! Bridges help connect us from one place to another. Today, we're going to learn how Jesus and prayer act like bridges for us, connecting us to God! We can pray, or talk to God, whenever we disobey Him because God forgives.

Activity: Peek-a-Boo

SUPPLIES: blanket, towel, or coat

Let's play a game you may already know: Peek-a-Boo! I'll go first. Put the blanket in front of your face and hold it for a few seconds before popping out and shouting, "Peek-a-boo!" to the kids. **Who else wants to go?** Take turns putting the blanket in front of the kids' faces and letting them pull it down and shout, "Peek-a-boo!"

It's fun to hide and play Peek-a-Boo! It was so fun watching you giggle when we did it! It's fun to hide from each other. Sometimes when we sin, or disobey God, we want to hide from Him. But we're going to learn today that we never have to hide from God. We can come to Him because He will always forgive us, even when we do wrong things.

Our Wonder Truth today is GOD FORGIVES.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD—Point up.

FORGIVES.—Put your hands together like you're praying and bow your head.

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Power of Prayer Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today, we're learning that God forgives.

We'll learn in God's big story that we can come to God no matter what we do because He will always forgive us. Let's sing to thank God for always forgiving us!

Play songs from the [Power of Prayer Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, old toy, cleaning rag or old toothbrush, small bowl, dish soap, water

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [God's Big Story Video](#)

Leader Tip: Instead of making a toy dirty for this activity, look for something in the room that needs to be cleaned anyway! It could be removing markers or crayons from a table, wiping off the writing from a white board, or cleaning a muddy pair of shoes or a dirty toy.

Before kids arrive, find an old toy and rub some dirt on it, or scribble on it with washable markers. Fill a small bowl with water and add a few drops of dish soap to make it sudsy. Set a cloth or old toothbrush beside the bowl and put it where kids can't get it.

Make It Virtual! This would work great in a digital or virtual setting by doing the experiment on screen for the kids to watch as you tell the story.

God's big story today is from the book of 1 John in the Bible. It was a letter that John wrote to a church. Let's find out from the Bible what John had to say!

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible, or use the script provided.

We all do wrong things sometimes that disobey God or hurt others. This is called sin. Every one of us sins. The Bible says Jesus is the only Person who has never sinned. As you talk, dip the rag or toothbrush in the soapy water and begin to clean the toy.

Some people in the church were trying to pretend they didn't sin, and John told them that's silly! Everyone sins. He told them instead of pretending to be perfect or trying to hide their sin from God, they should go to God and ask Him to forgive them. John said that no matter what we have done, God will always forgive us. Continue cleaning the toy until it's as clean as you can get it.

This toy was so dirty when I first started talking. But it's so clean now that it almost looks new! It's the same toy, but now it's clean. When we trust in Jesus as our Savior, God sees us as clean and new. Jesus makes us clean! We don't have to do anything except come to God through trusting in Jesus.

Jesus came to earth and died on a cross to take the punishment for our sins. When we trust in Jesus, God sees us as perfect and will always forgive us when we ask Him to. We can have a relationship with God because of Jesus. Have you ever had to say you're sorry to someone for hurting them? We can talk to God and tell Him we're sorry when we do wrong things. No matter what we do, we can go to God because God always forgives.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

God, thank You for Your amazing grace. Thank You for forgiving us when we make wrong choices. Help us live the way You want. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold out their hands in front of them with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May you know how much God loves you and wants to be close with you. You can go to Him any time, knowing He will always forgive you.

Activity: Bubble Prayers

SUPPLIES: bubble wand and solution

We learned today that we can always come to God with anything, and He is always ready to forgive us! We can pray to God any time and any place. As I blow these bubbles, you can watch them without popping them at first, and imagine they are our prayers going up to God. He always hears us!

Blow bubbles and let kids watch. Then blow more bubbles and let the kids have fun chasing and popping them.