

### LESSON 4

## JEHOSHAPHAT AND THE SINGING ARMY

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Is with Us When We Worship

**SCRIPTURE:** 2 Chronicles 20

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** With a huge army coming to attack, King Jehoshaphat gathers the people of Judah to pray. The army worships God on their way to meet the enemy, and God answers their prayer, defeating the enemy for them.

**Object Lesson: Magnetic Worship**

**Activity: Interesting Instruments**

**Worship**

**God's Big Story**

**Prayer and Blessing**

**Activity: Freeze March**

**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!

## Object Lesson: Magnetic Worship

**SUPPLIES:** large magnet, large paper clips (10–20)

Before kids arrive, lay the paper clips on the table. Place the magnet to the side.

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

**Welcome! I am so glad you're here today. We're going to learn today that God is close to us when we worship Him.**

**I've got a bunch of paper clips in front of me that I need to pick up.** Begin to pick up paper clips one at a time. Exaggerate how difficult it is. **Whew! I wish I could pick these up all at once!** Try to pick up all the paper clips in one fist, but make sure it doesn't work. **Wow, I really need some help picking up these paper clips!** Watch carefully to ensure that paper clips do not end up in toddlers' mouths.

**Good thing I have a special tool with me today. If I try to pick up the paper clips with just my hand ... watch what happens.** Press hand, palm open, on the top of the paper clips and lift. **They don't stay close to my hand. But let me bring out my special tool—a magnet! If I use my magnet ... let's see what happens.** Press hand, palm open, on the top of the paper clips. Place the magnet on the top of your hand and lift. The paper clips should rise with your hand. **The paper clips come up with my hand!**

**When I add the magnet, the paper clips stay near my hand! Kind of like the paper clips are near when we have the magnet, we can know that God is near when we worship! God is always with us, and we can be certain that when we worship, He is near. We'll learn more about that in our story today!**

## Activity: Interesting Instruments

**SUPPLIES:** percussion instruments

**In our story today, we'll see how some very scared people chose to sing and worship God rather than just be scared. They may have used instruments like these! Let's see what kind of music we can make with our interesting instruments!**

Invite kids to pick up and play the instruments. Encourage them to share the instruments with one another.

**Leader Tip:** Many toddlers love banging on pots and pans as a way to creatively express themselves, learning cause and effect, hearing how they can change the variables to create different sounds, exploring textures and kinesthetic learning, and exploring orientation and mobility as well as textures.

**The music you created was beautiful! It reminded me of the music the people in our story may have made when they worshiped. We'll learn more about that today, and we'll learn how God was with them. Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD IS WITH US WHEN WE WORSHIP.****

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.

**IS WITH US**—Wrap your arms around yourself.

**WHEN WE WORSHIP**—Raise hands over your head and shake them excitedly.

## Worship

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** songs from the [Worship with Wonder Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

**We'll learn in God's big story how God is with us when we worship. Let's sing and dance and worship Him now!**

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

## God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible, percussion instruments

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** [God's Big Story Video](#), songs from the [Worship with Wonder Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) (optional)

**Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about a person named Jehoshaphat (Juh-HOSH-uh-fat). Encourage the kids to say Jehoshaphat. Let's find out from the Bible what happened to Jehoshaphat!**

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

**God's people were called the nation of Judah. Their king was named Jehoshaphat. He loved God and taught the people all about God. Jehoshaphat told them to worship God.**

**Some of Judah's enemies tried to gang up against Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat heard that a huge army was coming. He was scared! Let's all make a scared face.** Pause to allow the kids to make a scared face. **Jehoshaphat needed help from God. He prayed and asked God to help Judah.**

**God heard Jehoshaphat's prayer. God said, "Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope because of this huge army. The battle is not yours. It is God's" (2 Chronicles 20:15). The next morning, Jehoshaphat and his army left to find the enemy army. Let's all stand up and march in place.** Pause and invite the kids to stand up and march in place for a few seconds, then sit back down. **Jehoshaphat told some men to march in front of the army and sing praises to God. Judah's army was singing!**

**That must have been a sight to see scared soldiers marching and singing at the same time!**

Encourage kids to stand up. Pass out the percussion instruments. **I will sing a worship song. If you know it, sing with me! Let's pretend to be Judah's army!**

March around the room while singing a simple praise song. Consider singing a song from the [Worship with Wonder Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#). Encourage kids to sing, play their instruments, hum, and clap as they march along.

Invite kids to sit back down.

**Jehoshaphat's army praised God as they marched to meet their enemies. God saved Judah's army from the battle! God is always close to the people who trust Him. God is with us when we worship.**

## Prayer and Blessing

**Let's talk to God. God, You are mighty, powerful, and always with us. Thank You for being with Your people. We can trust that You will be with us now! In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out 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 the Lord of heaven be with you. May the Lord of power and might put His hand over you. May your worship draw your heart near to Him.

## Activity: Freeze March

**SUPPLIES:** songs from the [Worship with Wonder Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

**Judah's army marched toward their enemy while singing and praising God! We're going to play a game where we will march and sing. We'll march all around the room when the music is playing. When the music stops, make sure you freeze! Ready? Let's go!**

Play music from the [Worship with Wonder Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to march around the room. Stop the music periodically to have them freeze in place.