

Adventures with GOD!

GOD GAVE ME A FAMILY (A.1.Spring.5)

Biblical Reference	Luke 2:51-52
Key Verse	Ephesians 6:1
Key Concept	The family God gave me is a gift of love.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name two or three ways that we obey our parents 2. Thank God for our family 3. Explain why it's important to obey

Life Application

God has given us our parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters. They are a gift of God from love because they take care of us, love us, help us. To demonstrate our thanks to God the children will work on a card that will say something specific they would like to do for their parents/guardians this week. Remember to be sensitive, as it's possible that some children in your class might not have their parents in their lives, or they might be abusive and therefore hard to be thankful for. Help them think of other people who God has put in their lives to help take care of them.)

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Introduction	Photos of families	5 minutes
Activity	Crayons, buttons, yarn, pastas, disposable spoons, card stock	10 minutes
Bible story	Bible, pictures, illustrations	10 minutes
Drama		10 minutes
Craft	Pattern, crayons	10 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

Opening Prayer

Gather children around a candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle

Prayer: God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Introduction: In newspapers, books, magazines, etc, look for pictures of families – all different types. Some families are only one parent and children. Others have one or two children, or lots of children. Some families have multiple generations. Again, look for a variety, remember the families of the children in your class. Let the children see the pictures and talk about the people that are in their families.

Activity: Let each child make a picture of their family. It can be simple or provide a bunch of different craft materials that the children can use (buttons, cut up paper, pasta, yarn, etc.) When they are done with their pictures, allow them to show it to the rest of the class and explain who they have drawn.

Bible story: Using the pictures in a children's Bible or other illustrations you find, talk about some of the families we find in the Bible (Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, Joseph and Mary, etc). You don't have to go into a lot of detail, but just help them get an idea of the families we find in Scripture. Then, in the appendix you will find more help to tell the story for today.

Drama: Encourage them to think about what can happen in a family. Think about the good things and not so good things. Help them act out the daily activities they do as a family. If there's time let them do some role playing - one child can be the father, another the grandmother, another a child, etc.

Craft: Have paper ready that has been cut and folded into cards. Make sure you have an example already to show them of what they will do. Help them think of something they can do to help their parents/guardians during the week (don't send it home with them yet)

You will find other crafts and activities you can do in the following pages. Make sure to enlarge the pattern of the puzzle, as well as the pattern for the other craft.

Closing Prayer

Gather children around the candle again. Light the candle

Prayer: Thank you God for loving us, Thank you God for sending your son Jesus into the world.



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PUZZLE

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Make three or four puzzles and the children can work in small groups to put them together.

Materials: Copies of the pattern below (enlarged), scissors, glue, card stock, crayons, markers.

Instructions:

1. Make sure to enlarge and make copies of the puzzles ahead of time.
2. Glue them to card stock.
3. Ask the children to help you color them and then if you want you can laminate them with clear contact paper.
4. Cut them along the lines and keep them in an envelope to use at another time.



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CRAFT

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Materials: a copy of the pattern below for each child, crayons, glue, scissors

Instructions:

1. Make sure to enlarge the image below and make a copy for each child.
2. When they have colored it, help them to cut it out and then fold along the lines.
3. Fold and tape or glue together part D with part C, folding along lines A and B.
4. While they work, talk about how our families are a gift from God. Each family is different.

