



Week 4 Preschool 8:30/11:00

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Is Worthy of Praise

SCRIPTURE: [Psalm 63](#); [108](#)

WORD OF WONDER: [From Psalm 139:14](#)

Have you had a wilderness experience?

When my family moved to our “new” house, we had a bug problem. The home had been vacant for months; spiders and insects were all too glad to take up residence. You can predict the reactions of my children.

I eradicated the bugs and cleaned the cobwebs, but I also thought the family needed a camping trip. See, I figured if we were out in nature—where the kids would see lots of bugs—maybe they would overcome their phobia. Unfortunately, our excursion did not have the desired effect.

David’s wilderness experience had more serious challenges. In the Judean desert, he had to locate water and forage for food. Even though David was God’s anointed king, he had to run from people who wanted him dead. He could have accused God of deserting him.

Yet even in the wild, David recognized God’s provision. Perhaps while observing a winged eagle sheltering its young, David compares himself to the eaglets under a protective wing ([Psalm 63:7](#)). As you prepare for teaching this week, I invite you to read [Psalms 63](#) and [108](#). Ask yourself, “Do I ever find it difficult to give praise to God?” Perhaps the next time you are in the wilderness—physically or otherwise—you might remind yourself that God is worthy of praise, no matter the circumstances.

—Jason Hitchcock

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Play Stations

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [I Can Praise God with a Joyful Heart Coloring Sheet](#) (1 per kid)

Play Station: I Can Praise God with a Joyful Heart Coloring Sheet

Set up: Ahead of time, print a copy of the coloring sheet for each kid and set out coloring utensils.

Play: Let the kids color. The kids can also turn the sheet over and draw something that makes them feel joyful.

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bible

WORD OF WONDER

How God made me is amazing and wonderful.

—from Psalm 139:14

Open your Bible to [Psalm 139:14](#). Show kids where it is in your Bible. If they have Bibles with them, leaders can help kids look it up in their Bibles.



Our Word of Wonder for the Wonderfully Made series is from [Psalm 139:14](#). Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together. Practice the verse with the kids.

Our Word of Wonder was also written by David. David wrote this as a poem to God, much like our part of God's big story for today. David may have sung these words as a song to God!

Today we're learning about praising God for things He has done and created, and one of those things is us! God made us! David knew that too, so he wrote this song poem to praise God. Listen to me read the verse, and then we'll say it together a few times. Then we're going to make songs and sing them to each other, just like David might have done when he wrote this.

Say the verse slowly with the kids several times. Let them listen to an example of you (or another leader who might be more musically inclined!) singing the verse to them in any tune you choose. It doesn't have to be perfect to be beautiful!

Put kids in groups of four or five and encourage them to work with their group to create a song with the Word of Wonder. Let them take turns singing it together for the leaders or other groups. Be intentional to clap, cheer, and encourage each group's effort! For those who aren't comfortable singing, they can dance, clap, or use musical instruments if you have them.

David wrote and sang lots of praise songs to God that we can read today. We can sing David's songs to God, and we can make up our own any time we want. There is so much to be thankful for when we think about God. He's worthy of our joyful songs all the time!

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **HOW GOD**—Point up with both hands.
- **MADE ME**—Point to yourself with two thumbs.
- **IS AMAZING**—Put one arm out to your side for each word.
- **AND WONDERFUL.**—Burst both arms up and out to the sides at the same time.
- **FROM [PSALM 139:14](#)**—Hold your hands open in front of you, as if holding a book.

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- **When you look around, what are some amazing things God made that make you want to praise Him?**
- **What are two things about yourself that you're thankful to God for?**

Circle Time: Name That Sound

SUPPLIES: various items that make noise (such as a party blower, bubble wrap, unsharpened pencils you can tap on a hard surface, a ball to bounce, a tray of paper clips, a stapler, keys on a key ring, a bag of chips to crinkle, etc.)

Before kids arrive, gather various items that make noise (but don't let the kids see the items ahead of time).

We're talking about making a joyful noise to God as we praise Him. We learned today about how David praised God. God's love and goodness are bigger than anything we can think of. God is great, and He's worthy of our praise. God deserves all our thanks for everything He has done. We can say, "Thank You, God!"

Let's listen for different noises and see how well you can decide what's making each noise! Do you think God loves to hear all the sounds of praise we make for Him? Allow the kids to respond.

Make It Inclusive: For kids who are hearing-impaired, act out the use of the item (like charades) so they can guess what it is.

Invite the kids to sit in a circle and set the supplies in the middle of the circle. Choose one kid to close her eyes. Then choose another kid to pick up an item from the middle, make noise with it, and put it back down. Allow the first kid to open her eyes, look at the items, and then guess which one she thinks it was. Repeat this with all the items so all kids get a turn. You can use the same items multiple times, if needed.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **Was it hard to figure out which item was making noise without seeing it?**
- **What's one of your favorite sounds, and why?**
- **What do you think is God's favorite sound?**
- **What were some different ways David praised God?** (*David sang to God, made music with instruments, thanked God, remembered all that God had done for him, etc.*)
- **Why did David want to praise God?** (*God helped him and gave him strength; God had done amazing things; God helped him defeat Goliath and protected him when he was in danger, etc.*)
- **When can we give our praise to God?** (*Always! Any time of day, no matter what we're doing or where we are!*)
- **Can we use other things besides our voices to praise God, and if so, what?** (*instruments, dancing, things we do, how we treat other people, doing our best in daily tasks like school, chores, sports, music, etc.*)
- **Should you praise God only when you're happy and things are going your way, or can you also praise God when you're having a bad day? Why?** (*God deserves our praise always! Even when we're not happy or we're having a hard time, we can remember all the good things God has done. We can remember that God is good, and God is with us to help us, even when things are really hard. When things are good, we can thank Him for all the good things He has given us!*)

God loves to hear our praise and hear how awesome He is, even if our singing isn't perfect or if our clapping is offbeat. He just cares that our hearts are thankful! We can also praise Him even if we're having a bad day or a hard time. We can ask for His help, and we can remember all that He has done for us, how good He is, and how He's always with us. We can praise God out loud with our words, in song, with clapping, or even silently in our heads. We can sing a song or say three words like this: God, You're awesome! It doesn't have to be long or fancy. What matters is that we're praising Him in our hearts.

Invite kids to practice sharing short prayers praising God.

Responding in Worship: When Should We Praise God?

SUPPLIES: coloring utensils

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [When Should We Praise God? Sheet](#) (1 per kid)

Ahead of time, print a copy of the [When Should We Praise God? Sheet](#) for each kid. Set out coloring utensils.

Pass out the sheets to the kids. **This sheet shows lots of activities we might do each day. Color the pictures that show times we can praise God.**



Give kids time to color the scenarios and be available to answer any questions they might have about what's happening in each scene. **You all did a great job coloring! Now I have a question for you. What scenes showed things we can do while we praise God?** Allow the kids to respond. Then remind them that we can always praise God! **We can praise God when doing any of those things! Praising God doesn't just mean singing or making music. It's anything we do or say to show God how much we love Him and how amazing He is.**

We can praise God at all times! We don't have to wait until we're in church. We don't have to wait for a specific time before bed. It's good to worship, pray, and praise God at those times, but we can also praise God while we're riding in the car, on the playground at school, or eating breakfast! Our praise doesn't have to be long and fancy. It can be short and sweet. You can say a simple, "God, thank You for the sunrise this morning!" or, "God, You're awesome!" We can praise God all the time because He's worthy of all our praise, all the time!

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, being sure to praise and thank God for who He is and what He has created.

As we pray and talk to God, when I say, "praise," clap your hands to show that you're cheering to praise God.

God, we thank You and praise (clap) You for being so awesome! We praise (clap) You because You are faithful and good! Help us always remember to praise (clap) You throughout the day! We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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

Blessing: God did good work when He created each of you. He is good and worthy of our praise all the time. May you go with a heart of celebration and excitement, praising God often!

Closing Game: Pass the Cup

SUPPLIES: disposable cup

Gather the kids to sit in a circle. **In our story today, we learned that David was thirsty for God. What do you think it means to be thirsty for God?** Allow the kids to respond. **This cup reminds me of how David was thirsty for God. He was longing for God. God is like a refreshing drink of water! We're going to play a game to remind us of how praising God can be like a refreshing drink of water. When the music is playing, pass the cup around the circle. When the music stops, whoever is holding the cup gets to jump and shout out a praise to God! You can thank Him for something He's done, tell Him He's awesome, or just say, "Praise God!"**

Play music and stop and start it at various times. When the music stops, whoever is holding the cup can jump and shout out a praise. If they need a moment to think about what they want to say, that's OK! Play several rounds as time allows.