

WEEK 1

ELEMENTARY SPECIAL NEEDS LESSON



Need to Know: *God Is All-Powerful*

Bible Story: *Creation (Genesis 1-2)*

Circle Up

1

1. WELCOME the child to our new series, "Amazonia"! Then, TELL him/her your name.
 2. SAY: *To start small group today, I'm going to hand you this **talking stick**. While you're holding it, it's your turn to talk. When I give it to you today, you can share your name and tell me your initials. I'll use your initials to give you a fun tribal name for today!*
 3. USE your initials and the **Tribal Name Guide** to give the child an example. Then, GIVE the **talking stick** to the child, and ALLOW him/her to share his/her name. ASSIST the child in figuring out his/her initials if needed. USE the child's initials and **Tribal Name Guide** to give him/her a fun tribal name.
 4. Once you've given the child his/her tribal name, SAY: *Hanging out in the Amazon is going to be tons of fun with our new tribal names! As we explore the rainforest together, we'll discover new truths about who God is. This week, we'll see that God is all-powerful. Let's say that together!*
 5. HAVE the child repeat the Need to Know after you with motions:
God Is (both hands point up)
All-Powerful (make muscle arms)
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Read the Bible

2

1. SAY: *We can see how powerful God is by reading a story from the Bible!*
 2. READ the **Bible Story Cards** to the child. At the end of the story, ASK the following questions:
 - *How did God create the heavens and the earth: with tools OR by speaking? (By speaking) Yes! God didn't need any tools or anything else to help Him. All He had to do was speak!*
 - *Can we see God face-to-face here on earth like we can see each other right now? (No) We can't see Him face-to-face, but we can know more about who He is just by looking at everything He has created.*
 - *When we look at all God created, does it help us see that He's powerful OR weak? (He's powerful) Yes! God is stronger and more powerful than anyone.*
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Let's Practice

3

"Amazon Bingo"

1. SAY: *We're going to play "Bingo" to help us remember that God is all-powerful!*
2. GIVE the child a **Bingo Card** and **coloring utensil**.
3. SHUFFLE the **Amazon Cards**, and PLACE the pile in front of the child, picture side down.
4. HAVE the child choose an **Amazon Card**, look at it, and hand it to you.
5. As you READ the fun fact on the the back of the **Amazon Card** to the child, HAVE him/her put an "X" over that picture on his/her **Bingo Card**. ASSIST him/her in spotting the picture as needed.
6. When the child has marked through four pictures in a row (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally), he/she can shout, "Bingo"!
7. GIVE the child some **hand sanitizer** and **candy** for winning the game. If time allows, KEEP playing to see if the child can get "Bingo" again.
8. At the end of the game, READ and DISCUSS the **Question Sheet** with the child.
9. REVIEW the Need to Know by having the child repeat it after you with motions:
God Is (both hands point up)
All-Powerful (make muscle arms)

Memorize It

4

1. SAY: *We're going to memorize a verse that reminds us of how powerful God is! If you can say the whole verse by yourself at the end of the series, you will win a special prize. Let's practice it together today* (SAY it with motions):
 - “*Lord God,* (both hands point up)
 - with your great power* (make muscle arms)
 - you made the earth and the sky.* (make circle with arms)
 - There is nothing too hard* (make "X" with arms)
 - for you to do.”* (pound fists)
 - Jeremiah 32:17* (make book with hands)
 2. SAY: *Let's play "Echo" to help us remember the verse!*
 3. PLAY "Echo" with the child by having the him/her repeat the memory verse in random funny voices and speeds. Some examples include:
 - Deep voice like a jaguar
 - Slow motion like a sloth
 - Getting faster each time
 - Squeaky like a monkey
 - Whisper
 4. GIVE the child coloring utensils, and ALLOW him/her to color a [Memory Verse Coloring Sheet](#).
 5. ALLOW the child to color their Sheet, and REMIND him/her to practice the verse at home.
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Let's Pray

5

ASK the child for any prayer requests. Then, PRAY the following for him/her:

- That he/she would believe that God is more powerful than anyone anywhere
 - That he/she would keep coming to church to discover more about who God is
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Stay Together

6

KEEP the child engaged in Small Group until he/she is checked out by doing any of the following activities:

- PLAY "I Spy" with the child.
- If the child is able, PLAY "Two Truths and a Lie" with the child by having him/her share two things about himself/herself that are true and one thing that is made up. Then, you will GUESS which fact is made up! If it's easier for the child, you can GIVE him/her the facts, and ALLOW the child to guess which fact is made up.
- READ the following fun facts to the child, and ALLOW the child to guess which statements are true and which ones are false:
 - *The canopy (top branches and trees) of the Amazon is so thick that it actually takes rain five minutes to reach the ground.* (False - It takes rain ten minutes to get to the ground)
 - *The Amazon River is the second longest river in the world.* (True - The longest river is the Nile)
 - *2.5 million types of insects can be found in the Amazon Rainforest.* (True)