



April 24-25, 2021
Joel, Prophet to Judah

Bible Passage: Joel 1–3

Main Point: God warned His people to repent before the Day of the Lord.

Preschool Bible Verse: He is slow to get angry. He is full of love. Joel 2:13

**PRESCHOOL
LARGE GROUP**

 **PLAY** Opening Video & Countdown

 **PLAY** Worship Songs

Worship leaders sing two songs with the children and collect the offering.

 **SAY LEADER** Script: Opening

Over the last two weeks, we have learned about two prophets, Hosea and Jonah. Remember that prophets are people that God sent to tell his message to everyone. What did we learn about God from these stories? [Allow kids to answer.] That's right. We learned that God loves people even when they do not deserve it. This week we will learn about God's prophet Joel and the message he had for the Kingdom of Judah.

 **PLAY** Big Idea Video

 **SAY LEADER** Script: Recap *Big Idea*

Preschool:

The people in Judah were not doing good things. **God wanted His people to repent.** *Repent* means to turn around and stop doing bad things. He tried to warn the people of Judah so they could all trust God and be saved. When the people said they were sorry for the wrong things they did, God promised that He would send rain. He said "The plants will grow, and the animals will have water to drink. Then I will give My Spirit to everyone. Anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Let's see if you were paying attention during the video... Give me a thumbs up or a thumbs down to these questions...

1. We're the people of Judah doing good things (thumbs up) or bad things (thumbs down)? (*bad things!*)
2. What did God send to eat all the plants? Locusts (thumbs up) or bears (thumbs down)?
3. Would God rather forgive us (thumbs up) or punish us (thumbs down)? (*He wants to forgive us!*)

God sent Jesus to be punished instead of us- so God forgives us even when we do wrong things. He wants us to pay attention to Him because He loves us!

 **PLAY** *Bible Verse* Video

Preschool Bible Verse: He is slow to get angry. He is full of love. Joel 2:13

 **SAY LEADER** Script: Prayer and dismiss to small group

[Invite kids to pray before dismissing to small groups.]

Let's take some time to thank God for His mercy and ask Him to help us forgive our friends too.

God, we praise You for being Almighty God. We need You more than we can know. Thank You for sending Jesus as the ultimate show of Your love and mercy. Help us trust in Him and live for You.



**PRESCHOOL
SMALL GROUP**

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Welcome: Welcome children and set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

Activity Page:

Materials Needed: Activity page, Markers, Pencils

Instruct preschooler to circle the locust on each row that is different.

SAY • What do you think these bugs are? They are called locusts. A locust is a kind of grasshopper. In today's Bible story, God sent locusts to eat the plants in Judah. Listen to the Bible story to discover why God would do such a thing.

Transition to Large Group / Transition back to Small Group

Activity: Simon Says with Emotion

Materials: None

Play a game of "Simon Says," but rather than calling out actions for preschoolers to do, call out emotions for preschoolers to play out. Possible emotions include angry, silly, sad, happy, worried, tired, surprised, scared, or grumpy. If Simon says, "Simon says [emotion]," preschoolers must play out the emotion. If Simon does not say, "Simon says" before listing an emotion, preschoolers must continue acting out the previous emotion.

Say: Good job playing out the emotions Simon told you to express. In today's Bible story, God's prophet Joel told the people that they should be sad. In fact, he told them they needed to get together and cry out to God. Let's find out why Joel said that.

Coloring Page & Pray

Materials Needed: Coloring Page, Crayons

Give the children time to work on the weekly coloring page.

Say: God, we are sinners. We do things You tell us not to do, and we do not do the things You tell us to do. Thank You that when we trust in Jesus, You forgive our sin. Help us to obey You. Amen.