



Date: _____
Series: God Teaches Me His Ways
Summer Year 2, Lesson 14

Small But Wise Creatures

Take Home Point: *GOD TEACHES ME...*I will do big things for God.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Bible Event: Proverbs 30:24-28

We will help children know:

- How ants, beavers, grasshoppers, and lizards are small but wise.
- How they can be wise to do big things for God.
- Jesus commended little children for having big faith to enter the kingdom of heaven.

We will help the children feel:

- Excited to learn that they can do big things for Jesus.
- An important part of God's kingdom.
- Eager to do big things for God.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event.
- Craft: Animal Banner.
- Snack: Ants On a Log.
- Game: Challenge Course.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: GOD TEACHES ME...*I will do big things for God.*
- Sing and Pray.

Kingdom Quest Year 2 - Lesson 14- 1

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
<p>Large Group Opening</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>5</p>	<p>Puppet Presentation</p> <p>Bible Event</p>	<p><i>Puppet Presentation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bubba puppet holding toy hammer • Bible <p><i>Bible Event:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mystery Box containing: • copy of Appendix A, cut apart (option: toys:ant, beaver, grasshopper and lizard)
<p>Small Group Application</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Activity 1: Craft</p> <p>Activity 2: Snack</p> <p>Activity 3: Game</p> <p>Prayer Time</p>	<p><i>Activity 1: Craft</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix A copied on cardstock, one per child • markers or crayons • paper punch for shepherd • glue • safety scissors • 24" piece of 2" wide ribbon or crepe paper streamers • 12" piece of string or yarn <p><i>Activity 2: Snack</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • napkins, cups, water or juice • straight pretzels or celery • cream cheese or cheese spread • chocolate chips or raisins • plastic knives or craft sticks <p><i>Activity 3: Game</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three foot dowel or broom stick • two chairs • label: I can do big things for God. • hula hoop • small toy • Pringles or tennis ball container • ping-pong ball
<p>Large Group Wrap-up</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>12</p>	<p>Singing (Optional)</p> <p>Lesson Review with Puppet Skit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your choice of music • Albie puppet • Example of craft • Example of snack

Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)

Purpose: *When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.*

Large Group Opening (15 minutes)



Purpose: *The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.*

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: Bubba puppet holding a toy hammer; Presenter holds a Bible

Presenter: **Boys and girls, let's call Bubba.** *(Children call "Bubba".)*

Bubba: Hi everyone.

Presenter: **Hi, Bubba. Is that a hammer you are holding?**

Bubba: Yes it is.

Presenter: **Why did you bring a hammer with you today?**

Bubba: I am soooo excited! I am helping my daddy build a tree house!

Presenter: **Wow, that sounds like fun.**

Bubba: It is. I get to pound my hammer (if possible, have Bubba pound hammer several times).

Presenter: **Bubba, you are really lucky to help your dad. What exactly are you doing?**

Bubba: Some of the nails are in a tight spot that my dad's big hands can't reach.

Presenter: **So what do you do?**

Bubba: I use my little hands to reach in and hammer away! (pounds hammer again)

Presenter: **Bubba, I can see that being small is a great help to your dad.**

Bubba: Yes it is. Guess what else I get to do?

Presenter: Carry the boards?

Bubba: No, silly. That is a job for big people.

Presenter: What is it then?

Bubba: I reach in the box of nails and get them out for my dad. His hands are too big for that job.

Presenter: I'm sure your dad appreciates that.

Bubba: He does. He gave me one more job to do.

Presenter: What is it?

Bubba: I get our drinks when we are thirsty.

Presenter: Why can't your dad do that?

Bubba: He's kind of old you know. It hurts his knees to go up and down all the time. So I do it for us.

Presenter: Bubba, your dad really trusts you to help with such a big job.

Bubba: Sometimes being little is better.

Presenter: Wow, Bubba! You just figured out our Bible event for today.

Bubba: I did?

Presenter: Yes. Today's Bible event we will learn that small animals are wise enough to do big things. Also, that small children can do big things for God.

Bubba: That sounds interesting.

Presenter: Would you like to learn more about this Bible event?

Bubba: Yes I would.

Presenter: First, let's practice the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part.

Bubba: OK

Presenter: *GOD TEACHES ME.....now you say, "I will do big things for God."

Bubba: I will do big things for God.

Presenter: Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?

Bubba: Sure.

Presenter: OK everybody, *GOD TEACHES ME...

Bubba: (and everyone): I will do big things for God.

Presenter: One more time. *GOD TEACHES ME...

Bubba: (and everyone): I will do big things for God.

Presenter: Wonderful. Say “goodbye” Bubba.

Bubba: Bye everyone!

Bible Event: Mystery Box

Supplies: Mystery Box containing: pictures of (or toy): ant, beaver, grasshopper, lizard

Presenter holds the Bible (have Bible marked at Proverbs and Matthew 18:3-4)

Note: *In today’s Bible reading, a coney or rock badger is mentioned. Because most children will be unfamiliar with a coney, the same concept will be taught using a beaver.*

Bring out the Mystery Box with the animal pictures or toys in it.

Boys and girls, today we have our Mystery Box. Inside the Mystery Box are some things that will help me tell you our Bible event. Close your eyes and imagine what might be in the Mystery Box. Imagine something very tiny with six tiny little legs and two small feelers. Next, imagine something furry with big front teeth and a big flat tail. Now imagine something green or brown that likes to hop through grass. Finally, imagine something long and skinny, with scaly skin.

Boys and girls, you can open your eyes now. If you were busy imagining with me, I bet you solved the mystery of what is in my Mystery Box. I bet you were imagining different animals.

Today we are going to learn that some animals are very wise. Even though they are small, they can do big jobs. Small children can do big jobs for God, too!

Pick up Bible and turn to Proverbs. **In the Bible, there is a book called Proverbs. Proverbs tells us all about wisdom. One thing it tells us about wisdom is that there are four small but wise animals.**

Take the ant picture out of the box. **One animal the Bible tells us about is the ant. The ant has almost no strength. Can you show me weak muscles? Hang limp. Even though ants have very little strength, in the summer they are able to work together to gather all the food they need for the winter.**

Put the ant aside and take out the beaver. **Show me what a beaver does.** Put hands under chin, fingers pointing out and down, and make jaw go up and down rapidly, making smacking sounds. **Beavers never took a class on carpentry; they aren't very educated. They don't have any schooling. But beavers are smart enough to build their own homes.**

Put aside beaver and take out grasshopper. **Another animal the Bible tells us about is the grasshopper. Show me a grasshopper jumping up and down.** Jump in place several times. **Grasshoppers have no king, yet they go places together like an army going to war.**

Put aside grasshopper and take out lizard. **The last animal the Bible tells us about is the lizard. Can you slither like a lizard?** Put arms out, palms down, and wiggle upper body in a "slithery" motion. **Lizards are so easy to catch; a person can catch one with his hands. Yet, lizards are wise enough to sneak into the palace of a king.**

Did you know that little children are like these animals? It says so here in my Bible. Let me read you a verse. Turn to Matthew 18:3-4. **In Matthew 18:3-4, Jesus says, "I can guarantee this truth: Unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes like this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."**

Close the Bible and put it down. **In those verses, Jesus is saying that grown-ups need to become like little children if they want to go to heaven. Why? Because even though children are small like the animals, they can do big things like the animals.**

Jesus said children are humble. Children don't think they can get to heaven by themselves. Some grown-ups think they can earn their way to heaven, but children know they need Jesus. Children know they need his love. They know they can go to heaven because Jesus loves them. In fact, Jesus loves us so much, he did something big for us. He died on the cross so we can be forgiven.

Children do big things when they are humble and love and trust Jesus. And children do big things when they share Jesus' love with others.

Boys and girls, let's practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. ***GOD TEACHES ME...I will do big things for God.**

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You teach me
To do big things for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

God TEACH-es ME.
God TEACH-es ME.
I WILL do BIG THINGS for HIM.
God TEACH-es ME.

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Small Group Application (30 minutes)



Purpose: Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.

Activity 1: Craft “Animal Banner”

Supplies: Copies of Appendix A on cardstock, one per child; markers or crayons; paper punch for Shepherd; glue; safety scissors; 24” piece of 2” wide ribbon or crepe paper streamers; 12” piece of yarn or string

Before class, punch a hole at the top of the wide ribbon.

Boys and girls, today we are going to make an Animal Banner with the special animals from our Bible event.

- 1. First I want you to color the animal pictures.**
- 2. When you are finished coloring, you can cut the pictures apart on the lines.**
- 3. Now you can glue the pictures next to each other on the wide ribbon.**
- 4. Next you can put the yarn through the hole in the ribbon and tie it in a loop. If you need help with this, let me know.**
- 5. You can use the loop to hang the banner on a doorknob, or anywhere you prefer.**

Review the Bible Event.

In the Bible event, what are the four animals and how are they wise? (*Ants: store food for winter; beavers: make a home to live in; grasshoppers: go places together; and lizards: get into king’s palaces.*)

Let’s practice the take home point. *GOD TEACHES ME...I will do big things for God.

Let’s fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

**Dear God,
We love you.
You teach me
To do big things for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen.**

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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I WILL do BIG THINGS for HIM.
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Activity 2: Snack "Ants On A Log"

Supplies: napkins, cups, water or juice; straight pretzels or celery; cream cheese or cheese spread; chocolate chips or raisins; plastic knives or craft sticks

*****CAUTION: Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.**

Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You teach me
To do big things for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to make and eat pretend ants on a log. I will give you a knife (or craft stick) to spread the cheese on your pretzel (or celery) which is the pretend log.

Then you can place the ants (chocolate chips or raisins) on your log. Now you can eat your ants on a log.

Review the Bible event.

How are little children wise according to Jesus? (*They have great faith in, trust in, and love for Jesus.*)

Let's practice the take home point. ***GOD TEACHES ME...I will do big things for God.**

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

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Activity 3: Game “Challenge Course”

Supplies: three foot dowel or broom; two chairs; labels that say: I can do big things for God; hula hoop; small toy; Pringles or tennis ball container; ping pong ball

Boys and girls, today, we are going to do five activities. You will do them first, then I will see if I can do them. They look difficult for me because I am so big. I wonder if being small is better? Let's see what happens.

To play:

1. All the children will do each of five different challenge activities listed below. (They all do one activity before proceeding to the next activity.)
2. After all of the children do an activity, the shepherd does the activity.
3. Most of the activities should be difficult for the shepherd to do because of size; the activities are structured for smaller bodies. Even if the shepherd is able to do an activity, the shepherd should “make a show” of not being able to do it.
4. Each time the children are able to do an activity and the shepherd is not able to do the activity, the children get a point. If a child has difficulty doing the activity, the group as a whole will get the point.
5. At the end of the game, the children win because they got all the points. Their prize is a label that says “I can do big things for God.”

Activities:

1. Set broom or three foot dowel across two low chairs. Have the children and then the shepherd stoop to walk under the bar without touching it or bumping it off the chairs.
2. Have one person hold the hula hoop vertical with the ground, so that part of it is touching the ground and part of it is in the air. Have the children and then the shepherd stoop to jump through it.
3. Set the small toy near the wall. Have the children and then the shepherd take turns putting their heels next to the wall. Bend the knees low enough to pick up the object and then stand upright without moving the feet.
4. Everyone must touch their toes to their nose.
5. Drop a ping-pong ball into the Pringles can or tennis ball container. (Tape edges of can if they are sharp.) Each person must reach into the container, grab the ball, and get it out without tilting the can.

Because of your small size, you children were able to easily do activities that are difficult for adults. Remember, even little children can do big things for God.

Review the Bible event.

What big things can little kids do for Jesus? *(Answers will vary, but may include telling others about Jesus, sharing Jesus' love, or bringing a friend to Kingdom Quest.)*

Let's practice the take home point. *GOD TEACHES ME...I will do big things for God.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

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We love you.
You teach me
To do big things for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)
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God TEACH-es ME.

Prayer Time:

What big thing did Jesus do for you? (*He died on the cross so our sins can be forgiven.*)

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child's request.

Let's practice the take home point. *GOD TEACHES ME...*I will do big things for God.*

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You teach me
To do big things for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

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Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



Purpose: *The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.*

Singing: (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

Supplies: Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.

Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

Presenter: **We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming.** (If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)

Presenter: **Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It is an animal banner. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.**



Presenter: (says to kids): ***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Kids say: ...I will do big things for God.

Presenter: (says to Albie): ***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Albie says: I will make great big crafts for him!

Presenter: **Albie, look at the snack we ate. It looks like ants on a log. Now listen carefully to the take home point.**

Presenter: (says to kids): ***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Kids say: ...I will do big things for God.

Presenter: (says to Albie): ***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Albie says: I will eat ants, bugs, worms and snakes!

Presenter: **Albie, today we played a game Challenge Course. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.**

Presenter: (says to kids): ***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Kids say: ...I will do big things for God.

Presenter: (says to Albie): ***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Albie says: I will jump over sticks and hop through hula hoops!

Presenter says: **Albie, listen one last time.**

***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Kids response: ...I will do big things for God.

Presenter: (says to Albie): ***GOD TEACHES ME...**

Albie's response:

(Warms up his singing voice with “*Mee, mee, mee, mee...*” and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)
***GOD TEACHES ME...I will do big things for God.**

Presenter says to Albie: Good job, Albie!

Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

**Dear God,
We love you.
You teach me
To do big things for you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.**

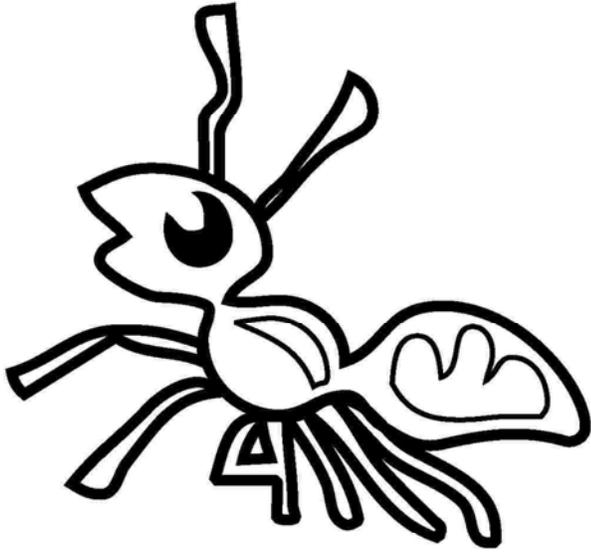
Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

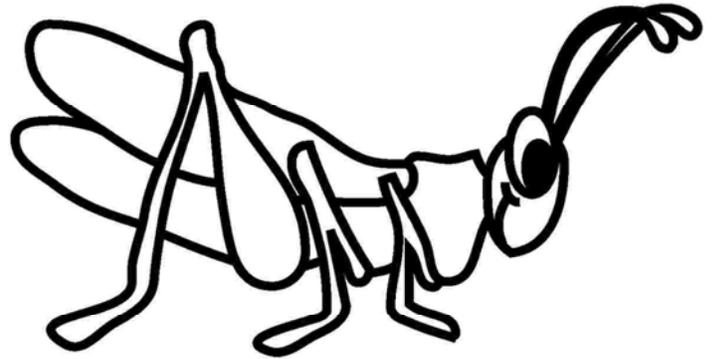
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**God TEACH-es ME.
God TEACH-es ME.
I WILL do BIG THINGS for HIM.
God TEACH-es ME.**

Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you, teaches you and wants you to do big things for him.



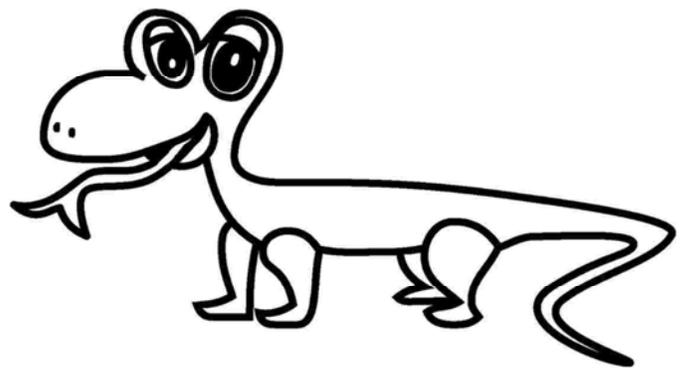
Ants are small, yet store
up food. Children are small,
Yet humble.



Grasshoppers go places in
groups. Children go to
share God's word.



Beavers know how to build
houses. Children know they
need Jesus.



Lizards can get into king's
palaces. Children can get
into heaven because
they love Jesus.