



*Almost
True*

Week 3 Toddlers

OPENING

As kids arrive be sure they are engaged in an activity. This month our older kids will follow along with our main service series, *Almost True*. Since this is a hard concept for toddlers to understand, we will stick with the truth of God's Word use the *Little Library of God's Great Love Storybooks*.

COLORING SHEETS

Available for any kids who want to color.

STORY and SNACK

Gather kids to pray and eat snack together. Our next story is from Psalm 23 that we are *FOUND*. Remind toddlers that God made them, knows all about them and loves them so much

Bible Story

Psalm 23

*big
idea*
God
loves
me, and
is
always
with
me.



*Almost
True*

Week 3 3-5a

OPENING OPTIONS (first 25 minutes)

- Coloring Sheet and Table Games
- Jesus Heals: Allow kids to glue on picture or words of things that are hard onto the heart. They can use two band aids to make a heart and glue on the words “Jesus Heals”

CLEAN UP SONG and BIBLE BOX

- About 25 minutes into the service, play clean up song and gather kids on carpet.
- Use the Bible Box story to tell the story with Bible Box props
- Pray on the carpet and head into snack time.

SNACK

- Gather kids at tables to eat snack as soon as they return
- Snack Discussion: Talk about when we might need God to heal our hearts. When can we talk to God? When do you talk to God?

CLOSING OPTIONS (as time allows after snack)

- Finish craft or coloring
- Free play

Bible Story

Genesis 37-
50

*big
idea*

God's
Word is
true, and
God can
heal
hurting
hearts.



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Week 3 Bible Box

Before you start, put a bandaid on your finger.

Hey friends, I'm so glad you came to church today!

Hold up Bible - Ask children to tell you what this book is - That's right, it's THE BIBLE!
God wrote the Bible and it is true. Ask children who wrote the Bible - GOD - that's right!

Ask children: When you get hurt and have a cut, scrape or bruise, what do you use to cover it?
Hold up finger with bandaid. A bandaid! That's right! Band-aids help us feel better and help our owies to heal.

But sometimes we have hurts that band-aids can't fix. Sometimes our hearts get hurt.
Like when our feelings get hurt or we feel sad or lonely. Maybe somebody is mean to you or takes your toy without asking. We don't feel very good when those things happen.

I have a video about a boy named Joseph. His brothers were not very nice to him and he was very sad. His heart got hurt.

Watch Joseph's Coat, Saddleback Kids

Wow! Those brothers were really mean to Joseph!

Put your hands on your head - Joseph was really scared.

Put your hands on your heart - Joseph's feelings were really hurt.

Joseph's heart was hurting and he needed more than a bandaid. Hold up finger with bandaid/
God loves us so much that he sent Jesus to heal our hearts.

When you feel sad or your feelings are hurt, you can talk to Jesus.

He knows what it feels like and He wants to help you!

Dear God, thank you for healing our hearts when we feel sad or hurt or lonely. Help us to forgive others and show your love to everyone we meet. Amen



Almost True

Week 3 Kinder / 1st

OPENING OPTIONS

- Coloring Sheet and Table Games
- Jesus Heals: Allow kids to glue on picture or words of things that are hard onto the heart. They can use two band aids to make a heart and glue on the words "Jesus Heals"

WORSHIP and STORYTIME

- Leave one volunteer to clean up and prepare goldfish during storytime so you are ready to go right into small group time. This volunteer should join the rest as soon as clean up and snack is set.

SMALL GROUP TIME (upon returning to your classroom, gather immediately on the carpet for small group time; you may not use all the questions, go through what you are able to)

- What is the name of our series? (Almost True)
- What does God's Word help us know? (What is really true)
- What is today's Almost True idea? ("Just wait—time will fix everything.")
- Who can heal our hearts when we are hurting? (God)
- Who is today's Bible story about? (Joseph)
- Did Joseph go through hard things? (Yes)
- What were some of the hard things? (help them to remember- His brothers sold him, he was pulled away from his family, he was a slave, and he was put in prison, etc.)
- Did God leave Joseph when life was unfair? (No, God stayed with him.)
- Can time by itself heal our hearts? (No)
- When you feel sad or mad, who can you talk to? (God)
- How can you talk to God? (Follow up- what does it look like for you to talk to God? Feel free to share some of your own examples to help them to think)
- Finish the Big Idea: God's Word is true, and God can ____ hurting hearts. (Heal)
- Pray together that God would heal our hurting hearts, that we wouldn't run away from pain but run to Jesus with our hurts.

CLOSING OPTIONS

- Finish craft

Bible Story

Genesis 37-50

big idea

God's Word is true, and God can heal hurting hearts.



Almost True

Week 3 2nd-3rd

OPENING OPTIONS

- Coloring Sheet and Table Games
- Jesus Heals: Allow kids to glue on picture or words of things that are hard onto the heart. They can use two band aids to make a heart and glue on the words "Jesus Heals"

WORSHIP and STORYTIME

- Leave one volunteer to clean up the room during storytime so you are ready to go right into small group time.

SMALL GROUP TIME (upon returning to your classroom, gather immediately on the carpet for small group time; you may not use all the questions, go through what you are able to)

- What is the name of our series? (Almost True)
- What does God's Word help us know? (What is really true)
- What is today's Almost True idea? ("Just wait—time will fix everything.")
- Who can heal our hearts when we are hurting? (God)
- Who is today's Bible story about? (Joseph)
- Did Joseph go through hard things? (Yes)
- What were some of the hard things? (help them to remember- His brothers sold him, he was pulled away from his family, he was a slave, and he was put in prison, etc.)
- Did God leave Joseph when life was unfair? (No, God stayed with him.)
- Can time by itself heal our hearts? (No)
- When you feel sad or mad, who can you talk to? (God)
- How can you talk to God? (Follow up- what does it look like for you to talk to God? Feel free to share some of your own examples to help them to think)
- Finish the Big Idea: God's Word is true, and God can _____ hurting hearts. (Heal)
- Pray together that God would heal our hurting hearts, that we wouldn't run away from pain but run to Jesus with our hurts.

CLOSING OPTIONS

- Finish craft
- Time or Truth: Have kids stand in the middle of the room. There are two sides to choose from:
 - Time Side - We think just waiting will fix it.
 - God Side - God is the one who truly heals our hearts.

Read statements aloud and have kids move to the side they think is true for each statement. After each round, ask one or two kids to share why they chose that side. Briefly explain the correct truth and connect it to Joseph's story.

Bible Story

Genesis 37-50

big idea

God's Word is true, and God can heal hurting hearts.



Almost True

Week 3 3rd

OPENING OPTIONS

- Coloring Sheet and Table Games
- Jesus Heals: Allow kids to glue on picture or words of things that are hard onto the heart. They can use two band aids to make a heart and glue on the words "Jesus Heals"

WORSHIP and STORYTIME

- Leave one volunteer to clean up the room during storytime so you are ready to go right into small group time.

SMALL GROUP TIME (upon returning to your classroom, gather immediately on the carpet for small group time; you may not use all the questions, go through what you are able to)

- What is the big theme of the Almost True series? (God's Word is truth—even when other ideas sound right.)
- What were the Almost True ideas from Weeks 1 and 2? (Follow your heart / Do whatever makes you happy.)
- What is today's Almost True idea? ("Just wait—time will fix everything.")
- Why isn't time alone enough to heal our hearts? (Because only God can truly heal our hearts.)
- What are some hard things Joseph experienced? (His brothers sold him, he was pulled away from his family, he was a slave, and he was put in prison, etc.)
- Where was God during Joseph's hard times? (With Joseph the whole time.)
- How did God use Joseph's hard experiences for good? (God used Joseph to help many people and save lives, specifically his family)
- What choices did Joseph make that showed he trusted God? (He talked to God, trusted Him, and chose to forgive.)
- What can we do when our hearts are hurt? (Talk to God, tell Him the truth, ask for help.)
- What might that look like practically this week? Can you give some examples of when you might need to bring things before God and how you can do that? (help them to be specific)
- Pray together that God would heal our hurting hearts, that we wouldn't run away from pain but run to Jesus with our hurts.

CLOSING OPTIONS

- Finish craft
- Time or Truth: Have kids stand in the middle of the room. There are two sides to choose from:
 - Time Side - We think just waiting will fix it.
 - God Side - God is the one who truly heals our hearts.

Read statements aloud and have kids move to the side they think is true for each statement. After each round, ask one or two kids to share why they chose that side. Briefly explain the correct truth and connect it to Joseph's story.

Bible Story

Genesis 37-50

big idea

God's Word is true, and God can heal hurting hearts.



Almost True

Week 3 4th-5th

OPENING OPTIONS

- Coloring Sheet and Table Games

WORSHIP and STORYTIME

- Leave one volunteer to clean up the room during storytime so you are ready to go right into small group time.

SMALL GROUP TIME (upon returning to your classroom, gather immediately on the carpet for small group time; you may not use all the questions, go through what you are able to)

- What is the big theme of the Almost True series? (God's Word is truth—even when other ideas sound right.)
- What were the Almost True ideas from Weeks 1 and 2? (Follow your heart / Do whatever makes you happy.)
- What is today's Almost True idea? ("Just wait—time will fix everything.")
- Why isn't time alone enough to heal our hearts? (Because only God can truly heal our hearts.)
- What are some hard things Joseph experienced? (His brothers sold him, he was pulled away from his family, he was a slave, and he was put in prison, etc.)
- Where was God during Joseph's hard times? (With Joseph the whole time.)
- How did God use Joseph's hard experiences for good? (God used Joseph to help many people and save lives, specifically his family)
- What choices did Joseph make that showed he trusted God? (He talked to God, trusted Him, and chose to forgive.)
- What can we do when our hearts are hurt? (Talk to God, tell Him the truth, ask for help.)
- What might that look like practically this week? Can you give some examples of when you might need to bring things before God and how you can do that? (help them to be specific)
- Pray together that God would heal our hurting hearts, that we wouldn't run away from pain but run to Jesus with our hurts.

CLOSING OPTIONS

- Time or Truth: Have kids stand in the middle of the room. There are two sides to choose from:
 - Time Side - We think just waiting will fix it.
 - God Side - God is the one who truly heals our hearts.

Read statements aloud and have kids move to the side they think is true for each statement. After each round, ask one or two kids to share why they chose that side. Briefly explain the correct truth and connect it to Joseph's story.

Bible Story

Genesis 37-50

big idea

God's Word is true, and God can heal hurting hearts.



Time or Truth (closing game)

Have kids stand in the middle of the room. There are two sides to choose from:

- Time Side – We think just waiting will fix it.
- God Side – God is the one who truly heals our hearts.

Read each statements below and have kids move to the side they think is true for each statement.

After each round, ask one or two kids to share why they chose that side.

Briefly explain the correct truth and connect it to Joseph's story if possible

1. If I'm hurt, I just need to wait and it will go away.
2. God listens when I tell Him how I feel.
3. Forgiveness happens automatically if enough time passes.
4. God can help heal my heart even when things still hurt.
5. Ignoring my feelings will make them disappear.
6. God stayed with Joseph during every hard part of his story.
7. Waiting means nothing is happening.
8. God can be working even when I don't see it.
9. Time alone can fix a broken heart.
10. God helps us forgive when we ask Him.
11. Joseph's pain disappeared quickly.
12. God was with Joseph even when life felt unfair.
13. Pretending I'm fine will make things better.
14. God wants me to come to Him when I'm sad or angry.
15. Time helps, but only God truly heals hearts.