



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Just Things

[10 min]

Supplies

- “Finding Things” handout (1 copy for every 12 kids)
- plastic tablecloth
- painter’s tape
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- Cut apart the “Finding Things” handout, and hide all but 1 picture throughout the room where preschoolers will easily find them.
- Make a cross with painter’s tape on a table or the floor. Cover the cross with the plastic tablecloth.

Find Things

Say: Today we learned that Josiah gathered up all the idols people had made. The people loved the idols more than they loved God, and that made God sad. There’s only one real God, and he loves us. Let’s gather up some things that might distract us from loving God.

- Show kids the picture you kept out from the “Finding Things” handout. Encourage them to find the pictures hidden throughout the room.
- Have kids each start with finding just one picture until everyone has had a chance to find one.
- If you’d like, play upbeat music while kids search.
- If time allows, let kids hide their pictures again, and repeat the search.
- After kids finish searching, ask them to carry their pictures to the tablecloth and pile them in the middle.

Talk About It

Say: There are some great things on these pictures. Pick up a couple of pictures and show them to the kids.

Say: There’s nothing wrong with these things. But they’re just things. We can have fun with them, but they can’t love us or help us like God can. There’s only one real God. The things Josiah found in the Temple were just things, too. But the people thought they should worship those things. Josiah got all of those things out of the way so the people remembered to love the one real God and pray to him. Let’s get our things out of the way, too. Gather the edges of the tablecloth so you can carry the pictures in a bundle. Remove the tablecloth with the pictures inside it, and set it aside.

**Say: Now we can see the cross and remember there's only one real God,
and he loves us very much!**



TALK-ABOUT VIDEO

Carl's Bible

[10 min]

Supplies

- "Carl's Bible" teaching video

Discuss and Watch "Carl's Bible"

Say: Today we're learning that God is the only real God. In the Bible, Josiah made sure to get rid of anything that would help people worship fake gods.

Ask: • **What do you know about other religions? How do you think they got started?**

Say: In our video today, we'll see what happens when our friend Carl gets a little confused about following only the real God.

Watch "Carl's Bible."

Ask: • **Why did Carl start writing a new Bible?**

• **What was the problem with what Carl did?**

Say: God is the only real God. There are people who have come up with other ideas for religions with different gods, and they've been able to spread those ideas better than Carl did. It's a good thing Jacob stepped in to set Carl straight! But other religions aren't true, because God is the only real God.



DEEPER BIBLE Tear It Down

[15 min]

Supplies

- Bible
- Lego blocks (about 10 per child)
- clean trash cans (enough to hold all the blocks)

Build Strong Things

Say: **God has filled our world with really big, strong things like mountains and trees.**

Ask: • **What's something else that's really big or strong?** Kids may say lions, the ocean, or their dads.

Say: **Let's build things with these blocks that remind us of something really strong.**

Form leader-led groups. Give each group a pile of blocks. Encourage groups to build something that's strong or powerful. Some ideas might be:

- mountain
- tree
- lion
- building

Give kids a few minutes to build, then ask each group to present their creation to everyone.

Say: **The things you built remind us of strong things. But those things can't help us like God can.** Go to one of the creations.

Say: **A [thing kids built] is strong. But I'm wondering if it can help us when we're sick. Give me a thumbs-up if you think this [thing kids built] can help you get better if you're sick and a thumbs-down if you think it can't.** Have kids show you with their thumbs.

Say: **A [thing kids built] is an amazing thing God made. But it can't help us when we're sick. There's only one real God, and he loves us and helps us get better when we're sick.**

Go to another group's creation, and say: **This is a great [thing kids built]. A [thing kids built] is really strong. But I'm wondering if it can help us when we're afraid. Give me a thumbs-up if you think this [thing kids built] can help you if you're afraid in the dark and a thumbs-down if you think it can't.** Have kids show you with their thumbs.

Say: **A [thing kids built] is an amazing thing God made. But it can't help us when we're afraid in the dark. There's only one real God, and he's always with us and can help us when we're afraid.**

Tear Them Down

Say: **People in the Bible built statues of strong things just like we did. But they forgot that there's only one real God. They started praying to their statues instead of to God! But the statues couldn't hear their prayers or help them; they weren't real. So Josiah tore down the statues to help the people remember to pray only to the real God. Let's tear down *our* statues and throw them away just like Josiah did.** Encourage kids to take apart their creations and put

their blocks in the trash cans.

Say: **God made many things that are strong. Sometimes those things can help us, like the way our houses help us stay safe and warm. But they're only things. The Bible reminds us that they can't do anything by themselves.**

Read 1 Samuel 12:21 aloud.

Say: **There's only one real God who hears us when we pray and helps us. He loves us and wants to be our friend. Let's say a prayer to God right now.**

Lead kids to pray and thank God that he's real and he hears their prayers.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Proclaim God's the One Real God

[5 min]

Supplies

- 3-ounce paper cups (1 per child plus 2 extra for you)

Sing and Stomp

Say: **Today we learned there's only one real God, and we heard how God's friends destroyed idols. Drop a cup and stomp on it. Let's review the song we learned. and at the end, we'll stomp on these cups like the people destroyed the idols in the Bible.**

Give each child a cup, and tell kids to hold on to their cups until you tell them to drop the cups and stomp. Lead kids in the following song and motions to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

Our God is the one true God, *(point up and nod head)*
One true God, one true God. *(point up and nod head)*
Our God is the one true God, *(point up and nod head)*
We worship only him. *(drop cups and stomp on them)*

Repeat as time allows. After the first round, kids can stomp on their already smashed cups.

Pray

Say: **Let's thank God for being a great God!** Lead kids in a prayer, thanking God for being great. Lead kids to say, "God, you're the only real God!" during the prayer.

Thank kids for coming to church, and invite them to come back and learn more of God's commands in the next few weeks.



ACTIVITY PAGES WITH A POINT

The One Real God

[10 min]

Supplies

- “God's Commandments: No Idols” Coloring Page
- pencils
- crayons

Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: **We're learning that there's only one real God. That's why Josiah smashed all the idols that people worshipped as if they were real! And just like there's only one real God, there's only one right answer in this puzzle.**

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will figure out which path leads to God.

- Ask:
- Describe what you did to find the right path.
 - How sure are you that you found the right answer?
 - What makes you sure God is the only real God?

Say: **There are a lot of things in life that can try to trick us. We might start to believe other things people believe in or worship are true. But the truth is there's only one real God. Other paths just don't lead to him!**

ANSWER KEY: Path E

Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: **One of God's commandments is that there's only one real God, so we worship only him. That's why Josiah smashed all the fake gods people worshipped! Let's color Josiah destroying the fake gods.**

Allow time for kids to color.

When kids finish coloring, three-hole-punch their pages and put them into binders, if desired.