



Preschool – April 14, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Jesus says to tell others about Him.

Great Commission • *Matthew 28:19-20*

Memory Verse: "Let your light shine." *Matthew 5:16, NIV*

Key Question: Who can do what Jesus says?

Bottom Line: I can do what Jesus says.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (10 - 15 Minutes)

Light in the Dark

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

What You Need: Tent, flashlights, and children's books; *Optional: table and flat sheet or blanket in place of the tent*

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set up the tent in your activity area and place children's books and flashlights inside.

Option: Spread a flat sheet or blanket over a table to create a tent-like structure.

During the Activity: Invite children to play and read books using the flashlights with you in the tent.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends! Look at the cool tent we can explore today! Let's go in and check it out!"

During the Activity: "I put some books and flashlights in here for us to play with. Watch this. If I turn the flashlight on, shine it at the side of the tent, and put my hand in front of the light, I make a shadow! (*Make different simple shadows, like holding two fingers up for a bunny.*) You give it a try. (*Let each child have a turn making a shadow.*) That was fun! Let's look at these books using the flashlights. (*Pause.*) That was a lot of fun exploring the tent with the flashlights."

After the Activity: "Today we're going to hear a Bible Story about shining OUR light and helping other people know Jesus. Let's go hear our story!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by encouraging children to follow the flashlight as you point it.

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

Show Weekly Preschool Video (Worship / Bible Story)

Use the full mix of the monthly song provided with the curriculum to lead your preschoolers in worship.

Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

Leading people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ



PRAY

Snack Fish crackers can be found in the Sunday school bin. Each child gets a glass of water and fish crackers (un- less otherwise specified because of allergies) at the table."

LEADER: "Let's tell God thank you for our good food. Dear God, thank you for our good snack. We love You, God! Amen."

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (20 - 25 Minutes)

Shine in the Dark

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft

What You Need: "Shine in the Dark Label" Activity Page, Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent, black cardstock, washable neon or glow-in-the-dark paint, paper plates, paintbrushes, smocks, tablecloth, baby wipes, and white crayon or pencil

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Shine in the Dark Label" on label paper, one label per child. Write each child's name on their paper using the white crayon or pencil. Cover a table with tablecloth. Place a few different colors of paint on several plates and place them on the table with the paintbrushes.

During the Activity: Help each child put a smock on. Encourage children to create a beautiful bold painting with the bright paints. Ask children to add a label and set aside to dry.

After the Activity: Review the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends! Come sit at the table with me. Let's paint!"

During the Activity: "Paint a picture with these fun neon colors. *(Pause.)* Look how beautiful and bright the colors are on your paper! Add this label to your paper—it has our Memory Verse on it. Let's say our verse together. 'Let your light shine.' *Matthew 5:16*. Great job!"

After the Activity: "Today we heard a story about doing what Jesus says and shining our light. Jesus gave His friends, the disciples, an important job to do. Jesus told His friends to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus is alive and Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Jesus told them to GO and TELL. And friends, we can do what Jesus says too! Who can do what Jesus says? *[Bottom Line]* I can do what Jesus says. One more time! Who can do what Jesus says? *[Bottom Line]* I can do what Jesus says."



Get Ready to Dismiss

Set any take-home creations where you or parents can get them easily. Greet parents at the door and tell them this month Preschoolers are learning that **Who does Jesus love?** *[Bottom Line]* Jesus wants to be my friend forever

Connect with parents as they arrive to pick up their children and send home any activities along with the memory verse card.