



Preschool – April 21, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Jesus says to love like Him.

Early Church • Acts 2:42-47; John 15:12; Hebrews 10:24

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)

Glowing

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

What You Need: Medium plastic containers, water, ice cubes, glow sticks, and paper towels

Note: Never leave a tub of water unattended. An adult should always be present. When the activity is over, please discard the water immediately.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Fill one container half full of warm tap water and the other half full of ice water. Place both containers on a table or the floor next to each other. Activate the glow sticks, and place them near the water.

During the Activity: Ask children to touch the water and tell you how each feels. Encourage children to look at the glow sticks and put one of each color, if possible, into each container of water. Explore the brightness of the glow sticks in the cold water versus the warm water.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hey, friends! Come join me over here and let's explore."

During the Activity: "Do you know what these are? (*Hold up the glow sticks.*) They are called glow sticks—see the pretty light they make? (*Pause.*) Let's see what happens to their light when we put them in the water. But first, dip your finger in this container of water. How does this water feel? (*Pause.*) What about this water? (*Pause.*) This container of water is warmer than the other one. Let's find two yellow glowsticks. (*Pause.*) Put one in each container. Do you see any changes in their color? (*Pause.*) Let's try the blue one. Put a blue glow stick in each container. (*Continue with all the glow sticks and allow children to play and explore the changes.*) That was fun exploring how the water changed the colors and brightness of the glow sticks."

After the Activity: "Today we're going to hear another story of how we can shine our light and do what Jesus says! I can't wait to hear today's story!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by encouraging children to chant the Bottom Line together.



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.

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)

Beanbag Love Toss

[Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: "Beanbag Love Toss" Activity Page, cardstock, construction paper in four different colors, glue sticks, painter's tape, scissors, and beanbags

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Beanbag Love Toss" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Glue each picture to a different color of construction paper. Arrange on the floor and tape to secure. About five feet from the papers, make a straight tape line on the floor.

During the Activity: Encourage children to take turns tossing the beanbags. Discuss with the kids what the pictures represent. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends! Come over here and stand with me at this line. Let's play a game together!"

During the Activity: "Let's take turns tossing the beanbags at these four different pictures. [Child's name], come take a beanbag and toss it at the pictures. (Pause.) Wow! Great job! Come tell me what picture you landed on. (Help children describe the picture the beanbag landed on or near.) Awesome! Let's have [child's name] take a beanbag and toss it at the pictures. (Continue with each child.) That was a fun game!"



After the Activity: “Today we heard the story of when Jesus told His friends to love people the way He loves them. If someone needed something, they gave it to them. They were loving like Jesus and shining their light. *(Hold hand up with pointer finger up like candle.)* Jesus’ friends also ate and talked and prayed together. We can love like Jesus and shine our light too. Everyone hold up your light. *(Hold up pretend light.)* We can all do what Jesus says and love like Jesus. 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.