

## Today's Suggested Schedule—January 2026, Week 1

**Today's Bible Story:** Young Jesus • Luke 2:41-52  
I can talk about God to others.

**Key Question:** What does the Bible teach you?

**Bottom Line:** The Bible teaches me the best things.

**Memory Verse:** *Your word is truth. (John 17:17 NIV)*

### Supplies NOT Included in the activity bags:

### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

We Can Do...

## Lesson ACTIVITIES

### Memory Verse with Motions

#### Bible Story Review- Find the Bible

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Books

#### Craft- Young Jesus Puppet

- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

### Overview of Story- Young Jesus

The Bible teaches us that we can talk about God with others, and young Jesus at the temple is a great example of it! When Mary and Joseph realized that young Jesus was not with them, they hurried back to Jerusalem to look for Him. Meanwhile, Jesus was right where He knew He should be, in His Father's house talking with important teachers. The Bible teaches us that everyone who heard Jesus was amazed. Jesus talked about God to others, and we can talk about God to others, too.

## **Social**

### **Providing Time for Fun Interaction**

#### **1. We Can Do...**

##### **What You Need:**

- ☐ No supplies needed

##### **What You Do:**

Make sure you have an open space where children can move freely.

Ask children if we can do a specific movement and encourage children to repeat the movement.

##### **What You Say:**

"Friends, come over here and let's have fun moving together."

"There are so many things that we can do. Let's see... can we can jump up and down? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, we can! Everybody, jump up and down. *(Pause.)* Freeze. Can we spin around? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, we can! Everybody, spin around! *(Pause.)* Freeze. What about touching our toes? Can you touch your toes? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, we can! Everybody, touch your toes. *(Pause.)* Freeze. *(Continue with different movements.)* Great job friends!"

"We can do so many things! Today we are going to hear what the Bible teaches us we can do!"

**Transition:** Move to Worship and Story by giving each child a high five and saying, "You can do it."

## Lesson Activities

### 1. Memory Verse with Motions

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.

Teach the Memory Verse motions. Invite the children to do them with you several times.

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* “Friends, come stand with me, and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. ‘Your (*point up*) word (*open hands like a book*) is truth,’ (*move index finger forward from mouth*) John 17:17.” (*Open hands like a book.*)

*During the Activity:* “Now, let’s learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: ‘Your’ (*point up*). Point one finger up in the air like this (*pointer finger up to the sky*) and say, ‘Your.’ (*Repeat with children.*) Great job!

“The next part of our verse says: ‘Word’ (*open hands like a book*). Put your hands together in front of you and open them like you are opening a book like this (*open hands like a book*) and say, ‘word.’ (*Pause.*) Now let’s put that together. ‘Your (*point up*) word’ (*open hands like a book*). Great job!

“The next part of our verse says: ‘Is truth’ (*ove index finger forward from mouth*). Put your pointer finger up to your mouth like you are saying shh like this (*pointer finger to lips*), then move your finger forward from your mouth (*move finger forward from mouth*) and say ‘is truth.’ (*Repeat with children.*) Nice job! Now let’s put that together. Your (*point up*) word (*open hands like a book*) is truth’ (*move index finger forward from mouth.*) Super!

“Now the last part is: John 17:17. (*Open hands like a book.*) Put your hands together in front of you and open them like you are opening a book (*open hands like a book*) and say: ‘John 17:17.’ (*Repeat with children.*) Great job! I think we are ready to do it all together! Ready friends? ‘Your (*point up*) word (*open hands like a book*) is truth,’ (*move index finger forward from mouth*) John 17:17” (*open hands like a book*). Nice job. Let’s do it again!” (*Repeat several times.*)

*After the Activity:* “The Bible teaches us so many wonderful things like how God made me, God loves me, and Jesus wants to be my friend forever. **[Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things. What does the Bible teach you? [Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things.**

## 2. Bible Story Review- Find the Bible

### What You Need:

- Preschool Books
- Preschool Bible
- One Foam Heart Sticker

### What You Do:

Gather a variety of preschool books and a preschool Bible. Place a foam heart sticker on the back of the preschool Bible. Lay the books out on the floor or table.

Invite the children to pick up the books and flip them over to look at the back. Have the children identify which book is the Bible by finding the book with the heart on it. Talk about all the books and how the Bible teaches us the best things!

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

### What You Say:

"Friends, come sit with me and let's play a super fun game together."

"Do you see all of these books? Pick them up and look at the back. Tell me when you find the book with the heart on it. (*Pick up a book that is not the Bible.*) Does this book have a heart on the back? (*Pause.*) Nope! Let's keep looking! (*Pick up a book that is not the Bible.*) Does this book have a heart on the back? (*Pause.*) Nope! Let's keep looking! (*Pick up the Bible*) Does this book have a heart on the back? (*Pause.*) YES! You found it! Do you know what this book is called? (*Pause.*) It's called the Bible!"

"The Bible is so special! It has God's words in it and is true, true, true! **[Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things. What does the Bible teach you? [Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things.**"

### 3. Craft- Young Jesus Puppet



#### What You Need:

- “Young Jesus Puppet” Activity Page
- “Young Jesus Puppet Label” Activity Page
- Paper lunch bags
- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Permanent marker

#### What You Do:

1. Write each child’s name on their paper bag.
2. Encourage children to glue the top part of Jesus’ head to the bottom flap of their lunch bag and Jesus’ body to their lunch bag. Have them color Jesus, then use the puppets to review the story.
3. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

#### What You Say:

“Today, we heard a story about when Jesus was twelve years old. That’s a little bit older than all of you.”

“Let’s make a Jesus puppet. We can use our puppet to help us review our Bible Story. Start by finding the flap on your bag. *(Pause.)* Great. Now glue Jesus’ head to that part of your bag so His mouth lines up to the edge of the flap. *(Pause.)* Tuck Jesus’ body under the flap and glue it to the bag. *(Demonstrate.)* Now color your Jesus puppet. *(Pause.)* Super job! Add this label to the back of your puppet. It tells you where you can look in the Bible to find today’s Bible Story. Now slide your hand into the bag to make your puppet talk like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Let’s use our puppets to help us review.”

“Jesus was twelve years old when He traveled with Mary and Joseph to a big celebration in the city of Jerusalem. It was so much fun! When the celebration was over, everyone went back home, but Jesus stayed in Jerusalem. While Mary and Joseph were walking back home, they realized Jesus wasn’t with them. Hide your Jesus puppet behind your back. *(Pause.)* When they couldn’t find Jesus, they went back to Jerusalem to look for Him. *(Put your hand above your eyes.)* When they finally found Him, Jesus was sitting and talking with important teachers about God. Use your puppets to talk to each other. *(Pause.)* The grown-ups were AMAZED at what Jesus said.

“Jesus was talking to the people about God, and we can talk to people about God, too! The Bible has God’s words in it, and it teaches us the BEST things! **What does the Bible teach you? [Bottom Line] The Bible teaches me the best things.**”