

## LESSON 2 SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Praying everyday will help me to GET READY to serve Jesus!

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn how important it is to talk to God because they are in a real relationship with Him.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Acts 1:1-14, Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

**MEMORY VERSE:**

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

**SUMMARY:**

When Jesus went to heaven his followers prayed and waited. They were not sure what God had planned for them to do, so they asked Him. God answered and sent His Holy Spirit to help them!

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Help us to remember to pray to you every day so that we may know you and be able to serve you well.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## MEMORY VERSE

*“So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19 (NirV)*

*“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19 (NIV)*

*“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19 (NLT)*

*“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” Matthew 28:19 (KJV)*

### **LARGE GROUP:**

Post the verse on the screen and ask all of the students to read the verse aloud once. Next, ask anyone wearing red to read the verse. Then, ask anyone wearing blue to read the verse. Last, ask anyone wearing yellow to read the verse. Finally, have everyone read the verse one more time before shutting off the screen and seeing who can remember it. Ask a few volunteers to recite what they can remember!

### **SMALL GROUP:**

\*\*\*PREPARATION: Ahead of time, print or write each word largely on individual pieces of paper using different color ink for different words.

Say the verse out loud with the kids a few times while holding up each word as you go. Next, shuffle the words up and ask the group to work together as a team to put the words back in order again. Encourage them and give help as they need it! Once they have put the verse together in order, read the verse out loud together one final time.

## SKIT PAGE 1

### WE'RE GOING FISHING (Part 2)

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Fishing Net, 10 pictures of different kinds of fish

#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

1 Boy

1 Girl

1 Sea Captain

#### CHARACTERS:

Jack – boy

Lauren – girl

Captain Fin – Sea Captain

*(Captain Fin, Lauren, and Jack standing center stage.)*

CAPTAIN FIN: Today is a beautiful day to be at sea!

JACK: When do we get to start fishing, Captain Fin?

CAPTAIN FIN: Patience Jack, today is about communication.

LAUREN: What do we need to talk about?

CAPTAIN FIN: Well, Lauren, one of the most important things to talk about is why we are fishing.

JACK: That's easy! We are fishing because we want to catch fish!

CAPTAIN FIN: But why do we want to catch fish?

LAUREN: To eat them of course.

*(Captain Fin opens his mouth wide with shock and almost falls over in reaction to Lauren's answer.)*

CAPTAIN FIN: Eat them!!?? Eat them!!?? What kind of fish operation do you think I'm running here kiddos?

## SKIT PAGE 2

JACK: Isn't that what most people do with fish?

LAUREN: Yeah! Isn't that what sea captains catch fish for?

CAPTAIN FIN: Not this vessel! NO SIREEEE! I catch fish for pet stores.  
(Lauren and Jack laugh!)

LAUREN: Really?

JACK: Wow that's so cool!

CAPTAIN FIN: I love fish too much to eat them and I want others to get to enjoy them too! So, I catch them and give them to aquariums, pet stores, and other places with tanks.

JACK: So, how do you catch them?  
(Captain Fin pulls out a fish net.)

CAPTAIN FIN: I use a net.

LAUREN: OH! So, I didn't even have the right tool yesterday when I started fishing?

CAPTAIN FIN: Beginner's mistakes. It's okay. We just needed to communicate about why and how we catch fish before we can actually do it.

JACK: I love that you don't want to hurt the fish.

LAUREN: Yeah. You must really love fish.

CAPTAIN FIN: I really do. Would you like to see how much I love fish?

JACK: Sure!

CAPTAIN FIN: Okay.  
(Captain Fin pulls out pictures from his pocket and holds them up as he talks.)

## SKIT PAGE 3

CAPTAIN FIN: Here is Sunny, she is 4 years old and living in Minnesota at an aquarium. This one is Henry, he is 9 already...they grow up so fast! Would you like to see Brenda? She was a real tricky one to catch, but worth all the effort...

JACK: Oh man. I didn't realize just HOW much you love fish...  
(Lauren and Jack start exiting the stage together and Captain Jack chases after with his photos.)

CAPTAIN FIN: Wait I have more here to show you...

## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

Small table, chair, plate, cup and a piece of fruit

(Begin sitting at the table with it set as if you are about to have a meal.)

I just sat down to have a meal and there is something I think I'm supposed to do first. Has anyone ever told you to pray before you eat? The reason we do this is to thank God for giving us food. I think I'll do that right now. "Dear God, thank you for providing me with this meal. In Jesus Name Amen." (Take a bite out of your fruit.) Wow, that is tasty. I see why it's important to thank God for my blessings like this food. It helps me to remember that He is the one that provides everything for me. It helps me to recognize how much we really do depend on God for everything. But what if this was the only time I ever prayed? I think I would be missing out on a lot, don't you? God is everywhere and we can pray to Him wherever we go. Talking to God on the bus, at school, in our backyard, at the store, at our grandparent's house, on vacation, or wherever we go helps us to be close to Him. Praying to God is how we have a close relationship with Him. Do you know why? It's because we are talking and listening to God just like we would a friend or family member. It would be a very difficult thing to have a relationship with someone if we never talked to them. How would we get to know them? How would we really know them at all? We might not hear God speaking to us out loud, but we can hear him speaking to us in our hearts through His Holy Spirit. So next time you sit down to a meal or before you go to bed, remember to thank God for his blessings... just don't stop there! Tell him about your day, ask Him for help with challenges, and talk to Him whenever and wherever you go!

## LARGE GROUP GAME

### TALKING RACE

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Buzzer or Bell

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

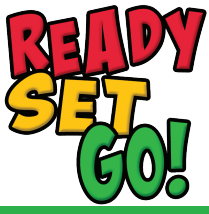
Form two lines with all of the students. Each line will be a team. Whisper the same word to the person at the beginning of each line and have them wait. Once each line leader hears the word yell out “GO!” They will then whisper the word to their friend next to them. Then the next friend will whisper it to the next, until it reaches the end of the line. The last person to hear the word will ring the buzzer or bell. Then, the teacher yells “STOP!” Give the team that rang the buzzer first a chance to say what they think the word is. If they get it right, do another round. If they get it wrong, allow the other team to finish whispering and see if they can get the correct word. Play a few rounds.

#### VARIATIONS:

Switch the order of the line a few times to allow for different bell or buzzer ringers.

#### WHAT’S THE POINT?

Communication is important. We always need to be communicating and listening well! It is especially important to talk and listen to God.



## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

Praying everyday will help me to get ready to serve Jesus!

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn how important it is to talk to God because they are in a real relationship with Him.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

Acts 1:1-14, Jesus Taken Up into Heaven

When Jesus went to heaven his followers prayed and waited. They were not sure what God had planned for them to do, so they asked Him. God answered and sent His Holy Spirit to help them!

### **INTRO:**

Raise your hand if you'd like to share your favorite thing to talk about! Now raise your hand to share one thing you pray to God about!

God wants to hear about our favorite things too! He loves to hear what makes us happy because He created us to enjoy this life! There are so many things to talk to Jesus about! A lot of it is thanking Him for what He has done for us. We can also ask God for help. In fact, He wants us to! In the Bible it says to pray about everything. In Philippians 4:6-7 it says, "Do not worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." Did you catch the part where it said don't worry but instead pray? I think this is so awesome! God has actually given us permission to stop worrying about our problems and give them over to Him. He doesn't want us to try to fix things on our own. He wants us to know that He will take care of us. Even grownups.

So, what happened after Jesus went up to heaven? What did the disciples do after Jesus left? Did they begin their mission to tell others about Him right away? Did they lose contact with God because Jesus was no longer there with them? Let's read the story in Acts to find out.

### **READ ACTS 1:1-14**



## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### MAIN POINT:

I don't know about you, but I would feel a bit intimidated after Jesus went to heaven. Have you ever felt like there was too much pressure on you? What kinds of things at school, home, or sports make you feel like it's all riding on you?

The disciples didn't immediately start going out and spreading the news about Jesus. They did not know God's plan for how they should do it. They also did not have spiritual gifts that the Holy Spirit would give them yet. So, they waited and they prayed. They asked God to send them help because they knew that it was God who would do the work through them.

Sometimes we try to do things on our own. We think that we are supposed to handle it and that it's our job. This is not what God tells us in the Bible. God tells us to pray to Him, to ask Him for help, and to depend on Him as we do the work He gives us to do. Praying is such a big part of this because it's how we can communicate with God and tell Jesus that we need Him.

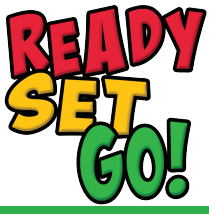
In our skit today, Jack and Lauren realized that if they hadn't talked to Captain Fin, they wouldn't have known the true reason that they were fishing. Raise your hand if you remember why Captain Fin fishes. Lauren and Jack also wouldn't have known how to fish properly if they hadn't communicated with Captain Fin. Can anyone tell me how Captain Fin fishes? Just like them, we need to talk to God first. We need to ask his Holy Spirit to lead us because God has a plan and we want to be a part of it. This is why it is so important to pray, so that we are communicating with God!

### DRIVE IT HOME:

I have a challenge for you today. Anytime that you hear me say the word pray or prayer, I want you to jump up out of your seat and then sit back down. Alright, are you ready?

Next time you feel like it is all up to you to make something happen... stop and pray! God wants to help you accomplish things. Pray about things instead of worrying about them. The pressure is off because you are God's child and He is going to do the work through you. Getting ready to tell others about Jesus is also something that we need to pray to God about first. He doesn't want us to just go out there and start, without talking to Him first. God will lead the way, give you the gifts you need to do it, and ultimately it will be Him doing the work in their hearts.

We do have an important part to play in sharing Jesus with others, but we can't forget that we are doing it with God, not on our own. God wants us ready at all times to share about Him. The best way to do this is by developing a habit of prayer so we can be ready to serve God anytime and anywhere! Pray to God at school, in church, at your friend's house, out loud, and silently in your head.



## LARGE GROUP LESSON

Pray to Him when you're sad and you need comfort. Pray to Him when you need help. Pray to Him when you're happy and thankful for a wonderful day! Pray to Him every day because it will help you GET READY to share about Jesus!

Great job! Did you notice how many times that I said pray or prayer? That was nine times!

### **CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear Jesus,*

*Help us to remember to pray to you every day so that we may know you and be able to serve you well.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

What things do you love to talk about? Do you have a favorite hobby or game that you and your friends share?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

\*\*\*PREPARATION: Ahead of time, print or write each word largely on individual pieces of paper using different color ink for different words.

Matthew 28:19

Say the verse out loud with the kids a few times while holding up each word as you go. Next, shuffle the words up and ask the group to work together as a team to put the words back in order again. Encourage them and give help as they need it! Once they have put the verse together in order, read the verse out loud together one final time.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play the telephone game. Sit in a circle and whisper a short phrase in the first kid's ear and see how silly it becomes at the end of the circle.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Read Acts 1:1-14
- How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus left? Remember, they were all close friends.
- What did the disciples do when they were waiting?
- How do we pray?
- What are some things we can pray for?
- Where are some places you can pray?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for helping us when we pray!*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### ICEBREAKER:

What is your favorite subject to talk about? Sports? Art? Music? Etc. Would you consider yourself an expert in something because you know A LOT about it?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

\*\*\*PREPARATION: Ahead of time, print or write each word largely on individual pieces of paper using different color ink for different words.

Matthew 28:19

Say the verse out loud with the kids a few times while holding up each word as you go. Next, shuffle the words up and ask the group to work together as a team to put the words back in order again. Encourage them and give help as they need it! Once they have put the verse together in order, read the verse out loud together one final time.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play the telephone game. Sit in a circle and whisper a tongue twister in the first kid's ear and see how silly it becomes at the end of the circle.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

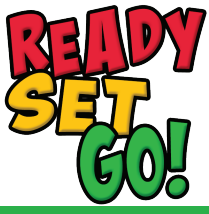
- Read Acts 1:1-14
- Who did Jesus say that He would send to help the disciples?
- How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus left?
- What did the disciples do when they were waiting?
- What are some things you pray for?
- How will praying help you get ready to share Jesus?
- How can spiritual gifts help us tell others about Jesus?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for always listening, for helping us, and for giving us everything we need.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*



## POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

TRUE OR FALSE

Jesus left us a helper.

TRUE

The disciples waited and prayed before they began their ministry of telling others about Jesus.

TRUE

It is all on us to make things happen!

FALSE

Praying is how we talk to God, thank Him, and ask for help.

TRUE

God might not always hear us talking to Him.

FALSE

We can talk to God wherever we go!

TRUE

# MAKE IT STICK

READY, SET, GO! LESSON 2

5 SIMPLE WAYS  
YOU CAN MAKE  
THIS LESSON STICK  
WITH YOUR KIDS

## THIS WEEK'S LESSON:



### IN THE CAR:

On the drive home, ask your child what he learned about this week: Why is it so important to pray to God? Can we ask God to help us? God wants us to ask for help. Talking to Him in prayer helps us to be ready to serve Him wherever we go! This is why it's so important to pray to Him every day! Acts 1:1-14, Jesus Taken Up into Heaven



### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Ask your kid to pray in as many different places that they can today. At school, at home, in the car, at an afterschool activity, etc. Have them keep track of all the places they prayed and report back to you!

Ask: What were some things you asked God to help you with today?



### AT DINNER:

- Here are some great discussion starters:
- Did you know that Jesus prayed too?
- Why do you think God wants us to talk to Him?
- Is there a special place that you like to go to pray on your own?



### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

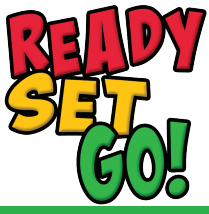
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### PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

God wants us to depend on Him and not try to do life on our own. Going to Him in prayer is how we have a relationship with Him, tell him our wants and needs, and to listen to His call.

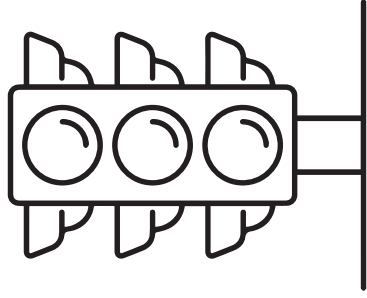


## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

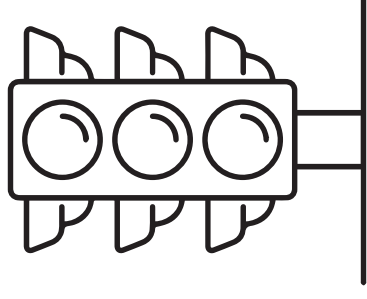
**Supplies:** Post-its and a pen

### **Post It!**

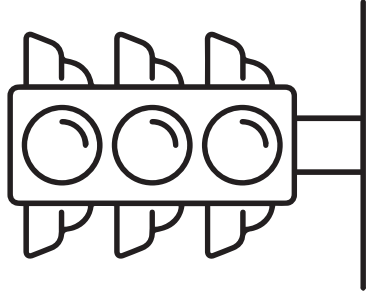
Have your child write “TALK TO GOD” and/or “PRAY” on several post-its. Ask them to walk around the house and put-up reminders in their room, where they brush their teeth, on a folder that goes to school, etc. Tell them how important it is to communicate to God all throughout the day!



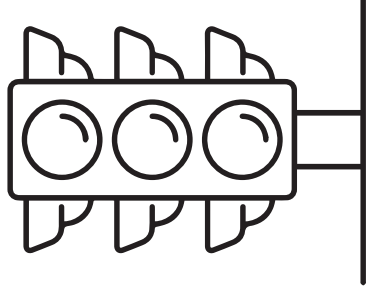
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