



I Can Choose to Choose to Have Faith Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: Peter Walks on Water- Matthew 14:22-33

Bottom Line: I can choose to have faith.

Leader Context: When we are worried, scared or facing a big decision, our faith needs to be like that of Peter: jumping in without hesitation, trusting that God will meet our needs. When faced with big decisions, how fast will you turn to God for help and guidance? If we keep our eyes on Christ, He will not let us fall.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

Social

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Bible Story Video (5 minutes)

Transition to Teaching Video - Say This!

What is the word that means we believe in Jesus and His plan even when we don't see or understand it? *Faith*

Why did Peter start to sink? *He stopped having faith.*

Our video today told the story of Peter Walking on Water. When Peter saw Jesus walking on water he jumped out of the boat to do the same thing. He was all good, until he doubted his choice. Then he started to sink. Jesus asked Peter, "Why do you doubt me?" There may be times in your life where it will be harder to have faith in Jesus. We want to keep talking about that today. Let's watch this next video together to find ways we can learn to have more faith.

Teaching Video (10 minutes)

Videos

Oil and Water Object Lesson (20 minutes)

What You Need: One cup of water labeled (faith), one cup of oil labeled "Unbelief", an empty large jar, WWJD bracelet (1 per kid)

What You Do:

- Show kids the two cups and have them guess what they think is in each cup.
- Say this- "The cup of water represents 'faith' and the cup of oil represents 'unbelief'. Faith means you are confident and sure that something is true. Unbelief is the opposite of faith. Unbelief means you don't believe.
- When you trust God, you have faith in Him. But sometimes we do not have faith or trust if God will be there for us. The Bible tells us that we are supposed to trust that He will take care of us all the time. They do not mix because you cannot have faith and unbelief at the same time.
- Pour the oil into the jar. Then pour the water into the jar with the oil. Let it sit for a little bit for the two liquids to separate. Then ask the kids about they see.
- Finish by saying- So when we pour the water into the oil, it doesn't mix. The same is true about faith and unbelief. Faith and unbelief do not mix. We can choose to have faith by believing in Jesus even though we cannot see Him. The Bible tells us that we can believe in Jesus because He is always with us.

What do you think about what we heard in today's videos? *allow time for kids to share. Keep in mind their questions and things that need to be clarified as you go through the remaining questions.*

What does it mean to have faith? *Faith means having confidence and trust in Jesus. It's when you know and make decisions based on the things God says, because you know He can be trusted and will always do what He says.*

What would you have done if you were in Peter's shoes? Would you have walked on water?

Stayed focus on Jesus? Hid in a boat? *Allow kids to share and discuss. Thoughts for kids to consider: Peter knew Jesus and he still had a moment when he got distracted and focused on the scary parts of the situation rather than the good and perfect parts of Jesus.*

What are some things you can do when you are afraid to do the right thing? Acting in faith sometimes means doing something even when you are afraid because God has asked you to do it. When you are afraid, it's important to have other people who have faith in Jesus in your life who can encourage you and help remind you that God has uniquely gifted you and made you special. They can help remind you of God's love for you and that He can be trusted. It's also important to spend time in the Bible, reading God's words to you. Then when you are faced with a tough or scary situation, you can remember what God says and tune out words of doubt and replace them with God's promises.

Pass out the WWJD bracelets. This bracelet can help you remember to focus on God's promises in every day situations, easy and hard decisions and everything in between. When you face a decision you should consider, what would Jesus do or say I should do?

Say: "We've been talking a lot about faith and unbelief, and we just saw how both cannot exist at the same time. Just like oil and water cannot mix, we cannot have faith and not believe at the same time. We have to choose. Remember Peter in our story today? He chose to have faith in Jesus, and he was able to walk on water! Wow! But when he began to look away from Jesus and choose unbelief, he started to sink. I believe Jesus wants all to live with extreme faith in Him. **Pray-** Ask God to help you have faith during tough circumstances. When you feel like giving up, ask God to give you the faith and strength to follow through.

Prepare kids to talk with their family about what they learned today.

- As family members arrive to pick up their kid, greet them and tell them one thing you noticed about their kid that day or something you talked to each kid about remembering this week.
- If there is time to chat with the family, ask how you can pray for them this week.
- Say bye to the kid and call them by name.