

January 14, 2018

Bible Focus: Jesus can do what is impossible.

Walking on Water • *Matthew 14:22-33*

Memory Verse: “With God all things are possible.” Matthew 19:26, NIV

Key Question: Who can do anything?

Bottom Line: Jesus can do anything.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Here’s what you’ll be teaching in 3s–5s this week.

Social (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)

9:00 & 11:30

- Water Matching

10:15

- WOW!

Bible (9:10, 10:25, 11:40)

All Service Times

- Bible History Presentation in the Sandbox

Journaling (9:30, 10:45, 12:00)

All Service Times

- Small Group Time
- Prayer

Groups (9:35, 10:50, 12:05)

9:00 & 11:30

- Sink or Float

10:15

- Jesus Walks on Water

All Service Times

- Dismiss–Parent CUE

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Social (Introductory Activities, 10 minutes)

Let one teacher lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

9:00 & 11:30

Water Matching

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

What You Need: “Bodies of Water” Activity Pages

What You Do:

During the Activity: Separate the “Bodies of Water” pictures into two piles. Turn one set of pictures face down on the corner of the table. Hold up the other set of pictures one at a time and identify them (stream, ocean, pond, and swimming pool). Once you have identified each body of water, lay the pictures out on the table. Then allow the children to take turns selecting a picture from the facedown pile and matching it to the ones you’ve laid out on the table. Review each body of water again after all the matches are made.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Today our Bible Truth is about water. There are lots of places we find water. Let’s look at these pictures together to see if we can name some of the places we find water.”

During the Activity: (Hold up each picture and identify it.) “Great job! Let’s put these pictures here on the table so that we can see them. In this pile (*point*), I have the same set of pictures. I want each of you to take a turn drawing a picture from the pile and finding its match.”

(Note: After the first four children find the matches, collect the matching images, shuffle them, and place them facedown again in a pile for the next four children.)

After the Activity: “Way to go, everyone! You found the matches for all our water pictures. In our Bible Truth today, we’ll hear about something amazing that Jesus did on the water. I can’t wait!”

Transition: Move to Large Group by pretending to do something in the water. Some ideas are riding in a boat, fishing, splashing in a puddle, or swimming.

10:15

WOW!

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

Be sure to place the "Allergy Alert Poster" at the door to your room.

What You Need: "Allergy Alert Poster," cookie sheet, baking soda, blue dyed vinegar, plastic cups, plastic spoon, and eyedroppers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Spread the baking soda all over the cookie sheet. Use the plastic spoon to stir the vinegar and dye if separation has taken place.

During the Activity: Help the children use the eyedroppers to drop the vinegar onto the baking sheet. The baking soda will foam and fizz. Be sure each child has a turn to drop the vinegar onto the baking soda.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We are going to do something SO COOL today!"

During the Activity: "There is baking soda on this cookie sheet. (*Point.*) Something really cool happens when we put some blue vinegar on it. Let's find out what it does! Squeeze the top of the dropper (*demonstrate*) into the vinegar and then let go of the bulb. Now put the dropper over the cookie sheet and squeeze the bulb again. WATCH THIS! (*Demonstrate.*) WOW! Now you try!" (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "That was so cool! In today's Bible Truth, Jesus does something way cooler than this. Are you ready to hear a TRUTH from the Bible?"

Transition: Move to Large Group by asking the children to chant this month's Bottom Line, "Jesus can do anything," as they walk to Large Group.

Bible (Large Group, 20 minutes)

After children have participated in Social, gather them for a large group time that includes interactive worship, introductory sketch and Bible Truth. Place your "We are in The Sandbox" sign on the door as you leave. Travel to the Sandbox.

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Journaling (Small Groups, 5 minutes)

Journaling is designed to help preschoolers understand how the Bottom Line applies to them. They’ll discuss real-life experiences and share prayer requests.

Give each child a cup of Chex cereal to snack on while you take them through the following exercise.

What you Need: Paperclip “Memory Verse Card” in your Bible at Matthew 19:26. Journal and a fun-shaped pen. Reward stamps.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Small Group time! Today we’re going to splash in pretend water puddles like this (*demonstrate*), because our Bible Truth was about how Jesus walked on water. We can’t walk on water, but we can splash in puddles. Follow me!”

(Pretend to splash in puddles as you lead the children around the room and back to your small group spot.)

“That was fun! Now let’s enjoy a snack as we talk about our Bible Truth from today!”

“I think it is amazing that Jesus walked on water in our Bible Truth today. The disciples thought it was amazing too. Walking on water is something only Jesus can do. We would sink if we tried to walk on water. But because **[Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything**, Jesus can walk on water. **Who can do anything?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: **[Bottom Line] “Jesus can do anything!”**

SGL: “Say it in a whisper this time. **Who can do anything?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: **[Bottom Line] “Jesus can do anything!”**

SGL: “You got that right! And the Bible verse we’re learning will help us remember that **[Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything**.”

(Open Bible to verse.)

“It says: *With God all things are possible*, Matthew 19:26.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

“Say that verse with me. Just say what I say and do what I do.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “*With God (point both hands up) all things (spread your arms out in a moving circle in front of your body) are possible (two thumbs up), Matthew 19:26.*”
(Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat several times.)

SGL: “Awesome! *(Give each child a high-five.)* Now it’s time to write in our journal and pray.”

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“Walking on water is impossible for us to do. Impossible means we could never, ever, EVER do it. But because **[Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything**, He can do what is impossible. Let’s make a list of impossible things—things we could never EVER do. We can use our list when we pray to thank God that **[Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything**—even what is impossible! So put on your thinking cap. *(Pretend to put on your thinking cap.)* When I say your name, tell me one impossible thing that we could never do.

(Write each child’s name and what they say beside their name. Remember to print the words they say so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

“You are so creative. Thank you! Now we can use our list to pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, Jesus is amazing! He can do what is impossible, like *(read the list the children made)*, because with You ALL things are possible, just like it says in the Bible verse we are learning. Thank You for sending such a wonderful friend like Jesus to be our friend forever. We love You, God! In Jesus’ name, amen.”

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Groups (Application Activities, 25 minutes)

These activities are designed to help preschoolers understand and remember today’s Bible Truth and Bottom Line.

9:00 & 11:30

Jesus Walks on Water

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Truth, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft

What You Need: “Jesus Picture” and “Week 2 Story Label”, paper plates (1 per child), glue sticks, two-inch square blue tissue paper, crayons, and completed sample craft.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the glue sticks, crayons, and tissue paper squares in the center of the table.

During the Activity: Pass out a “Jesus” figure to each child to color with the crayons. Then give each child a paper plate. Encourage them to glue the tissue paper squares on their paper plates to look like the water. Guide them to glue their colored Jesus figure to the center of the plate and place a label on the bottom of the paper plate.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Today I want us to create a picture to help us remember how Jesus did something impossible. He walked on water!”

During the Activity: “Let’s color our Jesus pictures first. Then we’ll glue some tissue paper squares onto our paper plates and then glue the Jesus picture in the center to show how He walked on water.”

After the Activity: “Your craft looks amazing! This will remind you that Jesus did something impossible. He walked on water! **[Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything. Who can do anything? [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything!**”

10:15**Sink or Float****Live for God | Application Activity***Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers*

What You Need: A large plastic tub filled 3/4 full of water, a Little People® figure (preferably a male), and several items that will sink

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the large plastic tub of water on a covered table. Lay out the gathered items on the table for the children to see.

During the Activity: Point out the tub of water and the items. Talk about each item and let the children decide if they think each one will sink or float. Once they've made their predictions, let each child take a turn selecting an item and placing it in the water. Make sure you save the Little People figure for the end. Place the Little People figure in the water and point out that every item sunk to the bottom except that one.

After the Activity: Pour out the water from the tub when finished. Make sure that you never leave the children unattended around water.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I have a fun game we're going to play today called 'Sink or Float.'"

During the Activity: "You might notice that I have gathered some items here on the table next to this tub of water. (*Point.*) I'm going to hold up each item and I want you to tell me whether you think this item will sink or float when I place it in the water. (*Hold up each item and listen to their predictions.*) Okay, now it's time to see if you're right."

After the Activity: "Out of ALL these items, only one floats. Do you remember which one it was? (*Pause and then point to the Little People figure.*) You're right, it was this guy! This reminds me of our Bible Truth today. Jesus did something no one else could do. He walked on the water. He didn't sink. Isn't that impossible? Not for Jesus! He can do the impossible. [**Bottom Line**] **Jesus can do anything**—even walk on water! **Who can do anything?** [**Bottom Line**] **Jesus can do anything.**"

All Service Times**Get Ready to Dismiss**