

February 24, 2019

Bible Focus: Jesus loves me no matter what.

The Thankful Woman • *Luke 7:36-50*

Memory Verse: "How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

Ephesians 3:18, NIV

Key Question: Who loves you?

Bottom Line: Jesus loves me.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

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

9:00 & 11:30

- Thankful and You Know It

10:15

- Good Choice/Bad Choice

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

All Service Times

- Bible Presentation in the Sandbox

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

All Service Times

- Small Group Time
- Prayer

Groups (9:45, 11:00, 12:15)

9:00 & 11:30

- Who Is It?

10:15

- Bug Catchers

All Service Times

- Dismiss—Parent CUE

February 24, 2019

Social (Introductory Activities, 10 minutes)

9:00 & 11:30

Thankful and You Know It

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Have children stand in front of you.

During the Activity: Sing the following song and do the motions with the children.

If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands
 If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands
 If you're thankful and you know it, then your heart will surely show it
 If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands

If you're thankful and you know it, stomp your feet
 If you're thankful and you know it, stomp your feet
 If you're thankful and you know it, then your heart will surely show it
 If you're thankful and you know it, stomp your feet

If you're thankful and you know it, shout, "Jesus loves me!"
 If you're thankful and you know it, shout, "Jesus loves me!"
 If you're thankful and you know it, then your heart will surely show it
 If you're thankful and you know it, shout, "Jesus loves me!"

If you're thankful and you know it, do all three (*clap, stomp, say "Jesus loves me"*)
 If you're thankful and you know it, do all three
 If you're thankful and you know it, then your heart will surely show it
 If you're thankful and you know it, do all three

Repeat several times.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I am so thankful that Jesus loves me. I know you are, too!"

During the Activity: "Let's sing a song that shows how thankful we are! Everyone sing with me and do what I do." (*Sing song.*)

After the Activity: "Great job! Let's do it again! (*Repeat activity.*) Jesus loves us SO much! Let's get ready to hear a Bible Truth that tells us how much He loves us."

Transition: Move to Large Group by singing the song again as you move to the Large Group area.

10:15**Good Choice / Bad Choice**

What You Need: "Faces" and "Choices" Activity Pages

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set the happy and sad faces on the table, at least a foot apart.

During the Activity: Gather the children and point out the happy and sad faces on the table. Hold up and read each "choice" and let the children vote on whether it is a good choice or bad choice by pointing to the happy (good choice) or sad (bad choice) faces. Once all children have voted, place the card with the choice onto the appropriate face.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Sometimes we make good choices that make others happy. But sometimes we make bad choices that makes others sad. I want to read some choices to you. If you think it's a good choice, point to the happy face. If I read a bad choice, point to the sad face."

After the Activity: "You did an awesome job figuring out which good choices make others happy and which bad choices make others sad. But you know what? There is someone who loves you no matter what. He loves you if you make a good choice or a bad choice. Let's go find out who it is!"

Transition: Move to Large Group by calling out some additional choices. If it's a good choice, children should smile to make a happy face. If it's a bad choice, children should frown to make a sad face. Choices: you clean up your toys, you yell at your sister, you listen to the teacher, you talk while the teacher is talking, you push a friend when you're angry, you play nicely with your friends, you take turns, you give someone a hug, you call someone a mean name, you disobey your mom, you whine about your dinner, you say "please" and "thank you," you leave your bike outside without putting it away, you are kind to others, etc.

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, 15 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 Ephesians 3:18. Journal and a fun-shaped pen. Reward stamps.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today we are going to pretend to cry all the way to our Small Group spot. Show me your pretend cry face. Boo-hoo-hoo!"

(Wipe your eyes like you're crying.)

"Follow me, crying friends."

("Cry" as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

"We're here! We can stop crying now. Everyone put on your smiley faces, because today's Bible Truth was awesome! Let's sit and talk about it. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

(Open the Bible and lay it open in front of the children.)

SGL: "Our Bible Truth today was about a woman who didn't have any friends because of the bad things she had done. Was Jesus still her friend? *(Pause.)* He sure was! Jesus still loved her and was her friend.

"When the woman heard Jesus was in town, she ran to see Him. She was so happy that Jesus loved her and was still her friend. When she saw Jesus, she started crying. She cried so much that her tears fell on His feet and she used them to wash His feet. Then she took her long hair and dried His feet. THEN she used some special perfume to pour

on His head. All of these things showed Jesus how thankful she was because He still loved her and was her friend.

“Do you know what the best part of this Bible Truth is? Jesus loves you and you and you (*point to each child*) no matter what, just like He loved that woman. Nothing will ever make Jesus stop loving you. **Who loves you?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: [*Bottom Line*] “Jesus loves me!”

SGL: “Yep! Jesus loves you with the biggest love EVER!”

(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

“We’ve been learning a Bible verse that talks about Jesus’ big love. Who’s ready to say it? I brought my stickers/hand stamp (*hold them up*) for anyone who tries.

“First, we will say the verse together one last time. Then, anyone who wants to try and say it can have a turn. Everyone stand up and let’s say it together with the motions.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “*How wide (hold arms out wide) and long (hold arms out vertically) and high (jump as high as you can) and deep (pretend to dig with a shovel) is the love (hug yourself) of Christ (point up), Ephesians 3:18.*” (*Hold hands open like a book.*)

SGL: “Yay! Good job! (*Give two thumbs up.*) I want everyone to sit back down. When it’s your turn to say the verse, you can stand up. Who wants to try and say the verse first?”

(Give each child the opportunity to say the verse on their own. Have your stickers/hand stamp ready to give when they say it.)

“I am so, so, SO proud of you!”

(Clap for the children.)

“Now it’s time to sit down and write in our prayer journal.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“Today we are going to make a list of things we are sorry for, like maybe we didn’t do what mommy and daddy told us to do or we had a bad attitude. Just like the woman in the Bible Truth was sorry for the bad things she did, we can tell Jesus we are sorry, too. Jesus loves us and will always forgive us!”

“When I say your name, tell me just one thing you might need to say sorry for, and I’ll write it beside your name in our journal.

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

“Sometimes it’s hard to think about what we’re sorry for, so thank you for trying. I’m going to write down what I need to say sorry for too. I’m sorry for . . . *(say out loud what you write down)*. There. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

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

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, we all make bad choices. Thank You for sending Jesus so we can be forgiven. Today we just want to say we’re sorry for *(read the list)* and that we want to make better choices. We also want to say thank You for loving us no matter what. You’re the best, and we love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

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Groups (Application Activities, 15 minutes)

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

9:00 & 11:30

Who Is It?

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

During the Activity: Gather all the children to sit in a circle in an open area of the room. Play a guessing game where you will give a specific description of one child, and the children will guess who it is. Make sure you select something that only applies to one individual child, like “wearing a snoopy shirt” or “has very curly blonde hair,” etc. When the children guess correctly, say, “Yes, Jesus loves [child's name].”

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Let's play a guessing game! I'm going to say something that I see about one of our friends. I want you to look around the circle and then guess who you think I am describing. Are you ready?” (*Remember to say, “Jesus loves [child's name],” after each child is named.*)

After the Activity: “We've been learning all month long that **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves me**. Jesus loves me no matter what! Nothing you do or say—nothing can make Jesus stop loving you! He loves you because He's Jesus! **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.**”

10:15**Bug Catchers**

What You Need: "Bug Label"(s), plastic cups (one per child), and plastic bugs

What You Do:

During the Activity: Place the bugs all over the activity area. Challenge the children to go around the area and collect the bugs into their bug catcher.

After the Activity: Be sure each child has at least two bugs in their catcher. Send the catcher and the bugs home with the children.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We love bugs! Let's catch some bugs!"

During the Activity: "Here is your bug catcher. *(Give each child a catcher.)* We have bugs all over the room. Go and see how many we can catch!"

After the Activity: "Great job! You caught a lot of bugs. We are talking about LOVE BUGS this month because Jesus LOVES us. **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me!**"

All Service Times**Get Ready to Dismiss**







Making the bed



Sweeping



Sharing a toy



Dusting/Cleaning



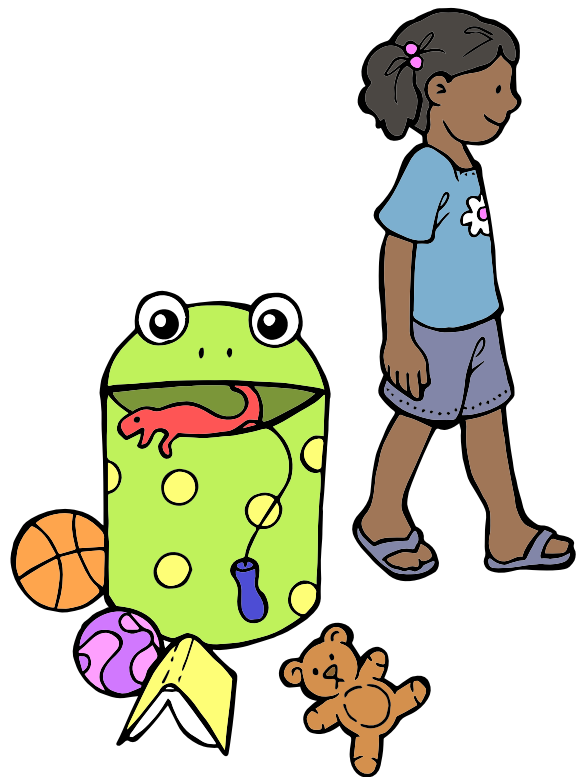
Drawing with a friend



Fighting over a toy



Not eating any dinner



Leaving toys on the floor

MEMORY VERSE

“How wide and long
and high and deep is
the love of Christ.”

EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV



“How wide

(hold arms out wide)

and long

(hold arms out vertically)

and high

(jump as high as you can)

and deep

(pretend to dig with a shovel)

is the love

(hug yourself)

of Christ.”

(point up)

Ephesians 3:18

(hold hands open like a book)

Jesus loves me.
The Thankful Woman
Luke 7:36-50

Jesus loves me.
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