

April 15, 2018

Bible Focus: People can change when they know Jesus.

Saul to Paul • *Acts 9:1-20; 13:9*

Memory Verse: “Go and make disciples of all nations.” Matthew 28:19, NIV

Key Question: Who can tell others about Jesus?

Bottom Line: I can tell others about Jesus.

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

- The Great Pretender

10:15

- Changing Colors

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

- Walk the Line

10:15

- Putty

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

The Great Pretender

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

During the Activity: Gather the children in an open area of the room. Call out the different examples listed below of something changing from one thing to another and encourage the children to act out the process with their bodies.

Water to ice (*flow to freeze*)

Seed to flower (*grow up*)

Cocoon to butterfly (*pretend to fly*)

Tadpole to frog (*wiggle then hop*)

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Did you know that you can see certain changes in nature? Have you ever noticed the leaves changing color in the fall? And then they fall from the trees in the winter so that new leaves can sprout in the spring. Pretty cool! I will call out some other examples of changes in nature and I want all of us to act out those changes with our bodies. Are you ready? (*Pause.*) Here we go!” (*Call out the changes listed above.*)

After the Activity: “That was SUPER fun! Did you know that people can change too? And not just on the outside, but on the inside too. Let’s go to Large Group to find out how!”

Transition: Move to Large Group by calling out these changes again for the children to act out.

10:15**Changing Colors**

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

What You Need: Gallon-sized zip-top bags, red and yellow paint, and masking tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Lay the bag flat and place the red paint on one side of the bag and the yellow paint on the other side of the bag. Be careful not to mix the paint. Tape the bag onto a table to secure it. You will need one bag per two children.

During the Activity: Invite the children to use their hands to change the colors of the paint by mixing them through the bag.

After the Activity: Ask the children what color the two colors changed into.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Today we are going to talk about changing. I have two colors in the bags. (*Point.*) Let's see if we can change them."

During the Activity: "Use your hands to see if you can change the colors." (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: "Great job! You changed the colors! They were red and yellow. What color do you see now? (*Pause.*) YES! Orange! In our Bible Truth, we are going to talk about how knowing Jesus can change people. I am so excited to find out what happens!"

Transition: Move to Large Group by pretending to change into their favorite animal on the way to the Large Group area. (*Ex: walk like a dog, use arms to portray an elephant trunk, 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, 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 28:19. Journal and a fun-shaped pen. Reward stamps.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Small Group time! Yay! Let’s sit down and talk about today’s Bible Truth. One, two, three, sit down with me!”

“Our Bible Truth today was about another kind of change. Do you remember how Saul changed? (*Pause.*) Yes, when Saul met Jesus he stopped being mean to people and started loving people. He wanted everyone to know the BIG NEWS about Jesus!

“When we tell others the BIG NEWS about Jesus and how much He loves them, they can change too. That’s why we tell everyone about Jesus! And **who can tell others about Jesus?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: [*Bottom Line*] “I can tell others about Jesus!”

SGL: “Louder! **Who can tell others about Jesus?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: [*Bottom Line*] “I can tell others about Jesus!”

(*Open Bible to verse.*)

SGL: “And telling others about Jesus will make disciples, which is another name for people who follow Jesus. And ‘all nations’ means the whole, wide world! Wow! We can help do that! Knowing the Bible verse we’ve been learning will help us remember to do that. It says: *Go and make disciples of all nations*, Matthew 28:19.

(*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

“Let’s say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do.

CHILDREN and SGL: “Go (run in place) and make (pound fist into palm) disciples (hold the hand of the friend next to you) of all nations (extend arms over your head in a circle), Matthew 28:19.” (Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: “You sound amazing! You’ll be ready to say it all by yourself before you know it, but now it’s time to pray. And I have an idea of what we can write in our prayer journal. Let’s sit down and get started.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“Knowing Jesus changes us, because we start loving people like Jesus loves people. Let’s make a list of things we do when we love people. It can be giving a hug, sharing our food, helping a sick person, or telling people the BIG NEWS about Jesus. When I say your name, tell me one way we can show people we love them like Jesus loves them.

(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.)

“This is such a special list. Let’s pray and ask God to help us do these things. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

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

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, I pray that each person here today will know You and follow You. I pray they will grow up to love others the way You love us. Help us all to *(read the list the children made)* so people will know Jesus loves them. And help us tell others the BIG NEWS about Jesus so He can be their 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

Walk the Line

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: Floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Use the floor tape to mark two parallel lines on the floor at least one foot apart. The lines should be five feet long.

During the Activity: Pair up the children and line them up behind the taped lines. Point out the lines of the floor. Encourage each pair to hold hands and walk along the taped path, BUT they must do so with their eyes closed. When you say, “STOP!” the pair must stop, open their eyes, and see where they are on the path. Repeat with each pair. Then let them walk the line again with their eyes open.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Let’s line up behind the tape lines with our partners. I want you to hold hands with your partner and walk along the line together, BUT you must close your eyes as you walk. When I say, ‘STOP!’ I want you to freeze where you are and then open your eyes to see if you’re still on the line. Are you ready? *(Pause.)* Okay, first pair, let’s walk.”

After the Activity: “Which was better: walking the path with your eyes closed or with them open? *(Pause for responses.)* YES! It was much better to walk the line with your eyes open. Saul’s life was so much better after that day on the road. He finally understood the BIG NEWS about Jesus and then he told so many others the same BIG NEWS about Jesus. And we can too! **Who can tell others about Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can tell others about Jesus.**”

10:15**Putty****Live for God | Application Activity***Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers***What You Need:** Silly Putty® and a newspaper**What You Do:***Before the Activity:* Lay the newspaper out flat on a table in the activity area.*During the Activity:* Give the putty to the children and encourage them to press it onto the paper to transfer the image onto the putty. Challenge the children to stretch and pull the putty to change the image. Repeat several times.**What You Say:***Before the Activity:* “Today we talked about how Saul changed when he became Jesus’ friend forever.”*During the Activity:* “We are going to do a super-duper cool experiment! If we push this silly putty (*hold up*) onto the newspaper, it puts the words and pictures from the paper onto the putty. (*Demonstrate.*) Now it is your turn to try. (*Do activity.*) Perfect! Now you can change the image on the putty by stretching and pulling it.” (*Finish activity.*)*After the Activity:* “Great job! You changed the pictures on the putty like Saul changed to Paul. Jesus wants us to tell everyone that He wants to be their friend forever. **Who can tell others about Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can tell others about Jesus!**”**All Service Times****Get Ready to Dismiss**