

April 29, 2018

Bible Focus: Telling others about Jesus is the best gift I can give.

Peter and John • *Acts 3:1-11, 16*

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

- Gift Box Stacking

10:15

- Gift Sort

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

- Pass the Gift

10:15

- Best Gift

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

Gift Box Stacking

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

What You Need: Several gift boxes of varying sizes

What You Do:

During the Activity: Gather the children in an open area of the room with the gift boxes. Encourage the children to work together to stack the boxes. If the boxes fall, encourage children to start again. Continue stacking and restacking the boxes as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “I have some gift boxes here. (*Point.*) Raise your hand if you love to receive gifts. (*Pause.*) Me too! Let’s work together to stack our gift boxes one on top of the other. If they fall, don’t worry. We can restack them. Let’s work together.”

After the Activity: “You did an awesome job working together to stack our gift boxes. Today in our Bible Truth, we’ll hear about the best gift that you and I could ever give to someone. But it’s not a gift you can fit in a box. Let’s go find out about this special gift!”

Transition: Move to Large Group by pretending to wrap a gift with paper, place a tag on the side, put a big bow on top, and then give that gift to friend.

10:15**Gift Sort**

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

What You Need: 5 different sizes of wrapped boxes

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the boxes in the activity area.

During the Activity: Ask the children to sort the boxes and arrange them according to size. Ask the children to place the boxes from smallest to largest. Repeat as desired.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "WOW! I see gifts!" (*Point.*)

During the Activity: "The gifts are all different sizes. Let's work together and sort the gifts. Let's place them in order by size. We can start with the smallest and go all the way up to the largest." (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: "Fantastic! Way to go! We are going to talk about the greatest gift of all in our Bible Truth today. It's going to be amazing!"

Transition: Move to Large Group by chanting, "Jesus is the greatest gift," on the way to the Large group area.

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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Bottom Line: I can tell others about Jesus.

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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! Jesus IS the best gift, and we want everyone to know! Let’s sit down and talk about how Peter and John told someone about Jesus in our Bible Truth. One, two, three, sit down with me!”

“Who did Peter and John tell about Jesus in our Bible Truth? (*Pause for response.*) Yes, they told the BIG NEWS about Jesus to a man who couldn’t walk. The man asked Peter and John for some money, but they didn’t have any money to give him. They gave the man what they had, and it was even better! Peter and John told the man the BIG NEWS about Jesus, and it was the best gift.

“We can give others the best gift too. All we have to do is tell others the BIG NEWS about Jesus. You can do that, right? Right! So tell me: **Who can tell others about Jesus?**”

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

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

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

SGL: “Yes, you can! And when you do you are giving them the best gift ever!”

(*Open Bible to verse.*)

“Now, who is ready to get their sticker/hand stamp for saying the verse we have been learning? Let’s stand up and say it together one time for practice, and then anyone who wants to try and say it can have a turn.

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.)*

SGL: “Yay! Way to go! You sound ready to me. I want everyone to sit 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 his own. Have your stickers/hand stamp ready to give when they say it.)

“I am so proud of you for trying to say the verse. When we learn Bible verses, we can carry God’s words with us everywhere we go. Now let’s get ready for prayer time.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“Today we are going to make a list of things that we think are really great gifts. It can be a toy or a bike or candy—anything! When we pray, we can thank God for giving us all these gifts and thank Him for the very best gift: Jesus! So when I say your name, tell me one gift that you think is really, really great.

(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 a great list of gifts. Would anyone like to pray and thank God for these gifts and for the best gift, Jesus, before I pray?”

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

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, You have given us so many wonderful gifts. [Child’s name] wants to thank You for *(gift he listed)*. *(Repeat for each child.)* But more than anything, we want to thank You for the best gift ever: Jesus. Thank You for sending Jesus to make a way for us to be with You forever. We love You, God! In Jesus’ name, amen.”

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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.

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

Pass the Gift

What You Need: Wrapped box with lid, filled with stickers and small toys, music that can easily be stopped.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the stickers or toys inside the box and replace the lid.

During the Activity: Have the children sit in a circle and play the music. Have the children pass the box around the circle while the music plays. Stop the music while the children are passing the box. When the music stops, allow the child that has the box to open the box and pick a sticker or toy. Restart the music and begin passing the box again.

After the Activity: Repeat until every child has picked a gift from the box. Be strategic when you turn off the music so that you make sure the box does not stop on the same child twice.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We are going to play a game!”

During the Activity: “We are going to pass the gift box to each other while the music plays. When the music stops, the person who is holding the box can open it and pick a gift. Are you ready for our fun game?” (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: “I am so glad that you all got cool gifts from our game. Today in our Bible Truth we learned that Jesus is ALIVE, and He is the best gift of all. We should tell everyone all about Jesus. **Who can tell others about Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can tell others about Jesus!**”

10:15**Best Gift****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: “Gift” Activity Page squares, small gift boxes, stickers, and small bows

What You Do:

During the Activity: Give each child a section and the stickers. Encourage each child to decorate their page with the stickers. Help each child fold their page into a small piece so that it can fit inside the gift box. Help each child place the folded page into the box and place the bow on top.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Jesus is the best gift!”

During the Activity: “We are going to make a gift for someone that tells them that Jesus is the best gift. You can give your gift to anyone that you would like. This page says, ‘Jesus is the best gift!’ We are going to put it in a gift box so you can give it as gift to someone special.” (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: “Your gifts are beautiful! This is a great way to tell others about Jesus. Jesus wants us to tell everyone about Him. **Who can tell others about Jesus?** **[Bottom Line] I can tell others about Jesus!**”

All Service Times**Get Ready to Dismiss**