

April 29, 2018

Bible Words: "Go and make disciples of all nations." Matthew 28:19, NIV
Easter • *Matthew 26:20-30; 27:1-2; 28:1-7*

Bottom Line: You can tell others about Jesus.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

The extended toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the Bible Truth and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. The same Bible Truth will be told in four (or five) different ways throughout the month allowing for the repetition toddlers need and crave.

Bible Time

- Shout It

Craft Time

- Big News

Play Time

- Pop the Bubbles

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Bible Time

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the Bible Truth. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That’s OK. They’re still listening and learning!

What You Need: Preschool Bible, toddler-safe shakers

LEADER: “Hey friends! I’m so happy to see you today. Our Bible Truth was about Easter. We can read about Easter right here! (*Hold up Bible.*) Easter is about Jesus, God’s Son! He came to earth where we live because He loves us so much.

“One night, Jesus had to tell His friends something. He knew that soon He would have to go away. He would be leaving His friends. But then Jesus promised to come back!

“That night, some mean people came and took Jesus away. They hurt Jesus and He died. It was so, so sad. They put Jesus’ body in a tomb with a big stone in front of it.

“Three days went by. Can you count to three with me?”

CHILDREN and LEADER: (*Hold up three fingers as you count.*) “One, two, three!”

LEADER: “When some of Jesus’ friends went to the tomb they saw that the big stone had been rolled away and Jesus was ALIVE!

“Jesus came back just like He said He would! He went away, and He came back. So Jesus’ friends ran and told EVERYONE, ‘He’s alive! He’s alive! Jesus is alive! Jesus is ALIVE!’

“Let’s march and shout it out that Jesus is alive! Everyone take a shaker. Can you shake it with me? Good job! Now let’s march around the room. Jesus is alive! Jesus is alive! (*Continue as long as there is interest.*)

“Everyone needs to hear that Jesus is ALIVE! [**Bottom Line**] **You can tell others about Jesus.**”

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Craft Time

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That’s OK. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

What You Need: “Big News” and “Jesus” Activity Pages (B&W), glue sticks, and chubby crayons

What You Do:

During the Activity: Retell the Bible Truth as the children glue Jesus to the Big News page. They can also color it if you’re using the black and white version.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Today’s Bible Truth was about Easter. Easter is about Jesus, God’s Son! He came to earth where we live because He loves us so much.

“One night, Jesus had to tell His friends something. He knew that soon He would have to go away. He would be leaving His friends. But then Jesus promised to come back!

“That night, some mean people came and took Jesus away. They hurt Jesus, and He died. It was so, so sad. They put Jesus’ body in a tomb with a big stone in front of it.

“Three days went by and when some of Jesus’ friends went to the tomb they saw that the big stone had been rolled away and Jesus was ALIVE! Jesus’ friends ran and told EVERYONE that Jesus is alive.

“The fact that Jesus is alive is big news. That’s just what it says on your paper: ‘Big News.’ Let’s glue Jesus on your paper to remind everyone that the big news is that Jesus is alive.

“Jesus came back just like He said He would! He went away, and He came back. Jesus is alive! Jesus is ALIVE! Everyone needs to hear that Jesus is ALIVE! **[Bottom Line] You can tell others about Jesus.**”

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Playtime

Heart Box

What You Need: Heart box with hearts of different textures

What You Do: Gather a few toddler friends to play with the heart box. As you pull out the different textures, let the children feel each one. Describe the different textures to them. This activity must be monitored, as you don't want anyone chewing on the different hearts.

What You Say: “Come and sit with me. I have a special box here. Do you know what shape it is? *(Pause.)* It's a heart. I love hearts because they remind me of love. Do you know who loves you? Jesus does. Jesus loves everyone. Let's see what's inside this box. *(Open box.)* Oh my goodness! There are even more hearts inside. There is a heart that's made of a sponge. It's kind of scratchy. Feel this one! It's nice and soft. All these hearts remind us that Jesus loves everyone.”