

September 10, 2017

Bible Focus: Isaac Walked Away• *Genesis 26:16-33*

Memory Verse: “So let us do all we can to live in peace.” Romans 14:19, NIRV

Key Question: Who can help us choose peace?

Bottom Line: God can help us choose peace.

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

- Toss and Take

10:15

- Cup Designs

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

- Full Well/Empty Well

10:15

- Well, Well, Well...Well

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

Toss and Take

What You Need: One 1-Liter water bottle for each child, rings to toss, throwing line taped on the floor.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Place all of the water bottles in one area, close together, but with enough space so that two cannot wind up in the ring at one time. Line kids up behind the throwing line.

During the activity: Explain to the kids that they will each take a turn tossing the ring at the water bottles. Every time a water bottle is caught, you will remove it. Make sure each child gets a turn to toss

At the end of the activity: Introduce the Bible Truth.

What You Say:

During the activity: “Okay friends, we are going to play ring toss with these water bottles. You will each get a turn to throw until you catch one. When you do, we will all say “We hit water!” Then, I will take it away. So, line up behind the line and I will let two of you toss at the same time.”

At the end of the activity: “You guys did such a great job. Today’s bible truth is going to be about a guy who would hit water but someone else would then take it away. Let’s go hear.”

10:15**Cup Designs**

What You Need: Plastic table cloth to cover the table, disposable paper cups, colored dot stickers, washable markers, cool water in a pitcher, and sample craft.

What You Do: Give each child 5 dot stickers. Encourage the children to use their imaginations to transform the dot stickers into something else, using markers. Once children are done decorating, pour water for each child and encourage them to take a drink.

What You Say:

Before the activity: “Good morning friends! Phew, it is really hot out these days. Summer time is a time where I am always ready to drink some nice cool water. Hey, I have an idea. Let’s make some fun cups for us to drink some cool water from. I am going to give each of you a cup and 5 dot stickers. I want you to put the dot stickers wherever you want on your cup and then, use those dots in a drawing. Here’s what I mean (*display the sample craft*). But I want to see what your imagination turns these dots into so I’m going to put this cup away. (*Pass out cups, dot stickers, and markers*)

After the activity: You know we have it easy compared to others who lived a long time ago. We can go to the water fountain, a sink, or the store to get water. But people who lived a long time ago used to have to get their water from wells that they had to dig, way down deep in the ground. We’re going to hear a bible truth about not just one well, but four wells. Let’s leave our cups here for snack time while we go listen to today’s Bible Truth.”

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 Large Group” 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 Romans 14:19. Journal and a fun-shaped pen. Reward stamps.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “Today’s Bible truth was pretty interesting. How many times did Isaac walk away from his angry neighbors? *(Pause)* Three times! I’m sure there were times when the people wanted to stay and fight but Isaac trusted God and God helped him choose peace When I ask you: **Who can help you choose peace?** I want you to say, ‘**God helps me choose peace.**’ Got it? **Who can help you choose peace?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: [*Bottom Line*] “**God can help me choose peace!**”

SGL: “That’s right! God wants us to choose peace. If someone is taking your toys you can choose to walk away. If someone is hurting you, you should walk away but also tell a grown up so that they can help you. Even if you talk to a grown up, you are still choosing peace, because you are not hitting back.”

“Our Bible verse this month says, ‘So let us do all we can to live in peace’ Romans 14:19, NIRV. I want to make sure we never forget it!”

CHILDREN and SGL: ‘So let us *(Sweep both arms out and back into yourself)* do all *(Arms straight up and fan them down to your sides)* we can to live in peace *(Make a peace sign)*’ Romans 14:19 *(hold hands open like a book)*.

SGL: “Good job! We’ll practice that verse every week and I’ll have a hand stamp waiting for you when you learn it.

“Let’s make a list in our journal of people we know we have to have peace with. When we pray, we can ask God to help us choose peace.”

Write down the children's names in your journal. Remember to print the words so they can recognize their names and letters.

Prayer

SGL: "God, I am so glad that we can talk to you all of the time and you will listen. God, help us to choose peace like Isaac did. Please give us the courage and strength to walk away from a fight even if we think we are right. Help us to love each other more than being right or having stuff. We love you God. Thank you. We pray 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

Full Well/Empty

What You Need: Hula Hoop, Foam Balls

What You Do:

Before the activity: Place the hoop on the floor, in the center of the room. Scatter the balls across the room.

During the activity: Explain that the children are going to pretend that the hoop is a well. Their job is to gather the balls around the room and place them in the well. Choose three volunteers that will be “mean neighbors.” These three children will gather as many of the balls from the well and scatter them back in the room. No one is allowed to stop the three neighbors.

What You Say:

During the activity: Before the activity: “Hello, all my friends! I have a fun game for us to play! You are going to have to work together to get the job done. I am going to scatter these foam balls around the room. I want you to peacefully, gather up the foam balls and put them in the well.”

During the activity: “Here we go.” When children begin to become agitated with the three children for continually removing the balls from the “well” stop the game and gather the kids to sit with you.

At the end of the activity: “You guys were doing such a great job of getting all of the balls in the well. What were the three “neighbors” doing with the balls? (Pause) Right, they were taking them out of the hoop and putting them back out in the room. Did that frustrate you? Did it upset you that you had to keep getting the balls over and over again? (Pause). You know, Isaac and his people probably felt the same way but they chose to care more about the people than keeping a well, and so they chose to walk away from the fight. They just kept digging new wells until God changed the hearts of the neighbors that were taking their wells away. God helped Isaac choose peace. **Who can help us choose peace? God can help us choose peace!**”

10:15**Well, Well, Well....Well**

What You Need: Prepared “Well”, water droplet verse cutouts (*one set for each child*), and crayons

What You Do:

During the activity: Place the colors on the tables. Recount Isaac’s trouble with his neighbors. Explain that they will be coloring a well and water droplets that will go into the well.

At the end of the activity: Practice saying the memory verse together and have the children place their water droplets into the well as they say the words. The water droplets are numbered so that they can practice memorizing their verse.

What You Say:

Before the activity: “Today’s bible truth was about a man named.....Isaac! That’s right. Did Isaac live in a place that was really cold or really hot? (*Pause*) Yes, it was really hot. Where did Isaac and his family, workers, and animals get their water from? Wells! Wow, you guys are such great listeners and learners. Isaac’s neighbors decided to take his wells didn’t they? What did Isaac do about it? Did He fight for his wells? (*Pause*) No, he walked away and dug a new well. He did that three times? How many times? Three! After Isaac and his family walked away from the third well and had dug their fourth well, the neighbors saw that no matter what they did, God was with Isaac. God helped Isaac to walk away from a fight and to find more water.

During the activity: (*Pass out the “well” activity page.*) “I would like you to color your wells.”

At the end of the activity: “Now that your wells are finished, here is some water to put inside of your well (*Give each child a set of verse water droplets*). These water droplets have our memory verse on them. They are numbered so that we can put them in the right order. Our verse is “So let us do all we can to live in peace.” Romans 14:19, NIRV. Say that with me (*Repeat several times, as a class*) Great job! This time we are going to say it as we put our water drops in the well. Ready? (*Demonstrate and assist as necessary*). Remember, God can help us choose peace all the time. **Who can help you choose peace. God can help me choose peace!** Exactly! I want you to show your parents your well and practice saying the verse with them this week.”

All Service Times**Get Ready to Dismiss**