

THE  
**GOSPEL**  
PROJECT<sup>™</sup>  
FOR PRESCHOOL

**Jesus the Servant**

*Preschool Leader Guide*

VOLUME 8



# THE GOSPEL

## GOD'S PLAN for US

**While preschoolers might not be ready to respond to the gospel, use this guide to help young minds begin to grasp big truths about Jesus and the kingdom of God.**



**GOD IS KING.** Ask: "Who is in charge at home? Who is in charge over the whole world?" Explain that God made everything! He is King over everything, and He is in charge.

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**WE SINNED.** Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell preschoolers that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin makes God sad.

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**GOD SENT JESUS.** Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.

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**JESUS LOVES.** Ask: "Do you like presents?" Explain that Jesus gives us the best present. He never did anything wrong, but He was punished in our place. Jesus wants to take away our sin because He loves us.

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*Pray that God will save your preschoolers. As you faithfully teach the Bible, you are planting gospel seeds in children's hearts. Ask God to grow the preschoolers into children who love and trust in Jesus.*

# THE GOSPEL PROJECT<sup>®</sup> FOR PRESCHOOL

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↑  
Write the dates for each session here!

*The Gospel Project for Preschool:  
Preschool Leader Guide*

## Volume 8 Jesus the Servant

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**Ben Mandrell**  
*President and CEO*

**Ed Stetzer**  
*Founding Editor*

**Trevin Wax**  
*General Editor*

**Brian Dembowczyk**  
*Managing Editor*

**Landry Holmes**  
*Manager, Kids Ministry Publishing*

**Jana Magruder**  
*Director, Kids Ministry*

Send questions/comments by email to  
brian.dembowczyk@lifeway.com, or mail to

**Managing Editor**  
*The Gospel Project for Preschool*  
One LifeWay Plaza  
Nashville, TN 37234-0172

Or make comments on the Web at  
[www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com)

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# Bible Study at a Glance

## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Familiarize yourself with the content and context of the Bible story and how it relates to God's plan of redemption.



### Preparation

Pray for your preschoolers and contact families during the week. Gather and prepare session materials.

- Pray for your preschoolers
- Send a parent email
- Print/download printables
- Assemble supplies
- Prepare videos

### Introduce the Story

Engage preschoolers and introduce the day's Bible story.

- Opening Activities
- Activity Page

#### Say what?

Use the suggested "Say" dialogue to easily move between segments.

### Teach the Story

Communicate the day's Bible story and discover God's big story.

- Big Picture Question
- Giant Timeline
- Bible Story
- Missions Moment
- Key Passage
- Sing

## Apply the Story

Reinforce the Bible Story by engaging in fun activities for multiple learning styles.

- Activities
- Snack & Transition

### Suggested times

The times provided allow you to complete the session plan in an hour. Lengthen or shorten the session as needed.



### Missions Moment

Introduce preschoolers to missions and encourage them to take the gospel to the nations with designated missions awareness activities.

## Make it fit

Customize the session plan to fit the needs of your church or classroom.



- 1) Use “Introduce the Story” to welcome preschoolers to Bible study. Preschoolers may complete an activity together and/or work the activity page.
- 2) Transition to an area within your classroom that can be designated as the “Teach the Story” area. Watch the Bible story video or tell the Bible story. Incorporate any “Teach the Story” elements that fit your space and your time constraints.
- 3) Regroup to the “Experience the Story” area by using a countdown video. Set up activities in one of these ways: as a group, all at the same time; in small groups that rotate through each activity; set up as centers, allowing preschoolers to browse and choose.



- 1) Use “Introduce the Story” to welcome preschoolers to Bible study. Preschoolers may complete an activity together and/or work the activity page.
- 2) Use the countdown video or other transition signal as you move your small group to join the other small groups in the “Teach the Story” area. Watch the Bible story video or tell the Bible story. Incorporate any large group elements that fit your space and your time constraints.
- 3) Regroup to the “Experience the Story” rooms where you will reinforce what preschoolers learned from the “Teach the Story” leader. Set up activities in one of these ways: as a group, all at the same time; in small groups that rotate through each activity; set up as centers, allowing preschoolers to browse and choose.

# Unit 22: Jesus the Healer

## Unit Description:

In the Old Testament, God gave the prophets Elijah and Elisha power to heal diseases and raise the dead. Jesus is greater than the prophets. Jesus not only healed the sick and raised the dead, He also defeated sin and death once and for all when He died on the cross and rose again. Jesus will return one day and eliminate sickness and suffering forever.

## Key Passage:

Isaiah 53:4-5

## Big Picture Question:

Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## Session 1:

### Jesus Healed Ten Men

*Luke 17*

**Story Point:** Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease.

## Session 2:

### Jesus Healed a Woman and a Girl

*Mark 5*

**Story Point:** Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life.

## Session 3:

### Jesus Healed a Man Who Was

**Lame**

*John 5*

**Story Point:** Jesus healed a man who could not walk.

## Session 4:

### Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Blind

*John 9*

**Story Point:** Jesus healed a man who could not see.



## **Jesus Healed Ten Men**

Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease.

## **Jesus Healed a Woman and a Girl**

Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life.



## **Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Lame**

Jesus healed a man who could not walk.

## **Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Blind**

Jesus healed a man who could not see.





Use Week of:

## Unit 22 • Session 1

# Jesus Healed Ten Men

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Luke 17

### STORY POINT:

Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease.

### KEY PASSAGE:

Isaiah 53:4-5

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

#### INTRODUCE THE STORY

(15–20 MINUTES)

PAGE 10



#### TEACH THE STORY

(10–15 MINUTES)

PAGE 12



#### EXPERIENCE THE STORY

(20–25 MINUTES)

PAGE 14



Additional resources are available at [gospelproject.com](http://gospelproject.com).

For free training and session-by-session help, visit [MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject](http://MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject).

## LEADER Bible Study

Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem when He stopped in a village. He was approached by ten men who had leprosy. The men didn't get too close because according to Jewish law, their disease meant they were unclean. Leviticus 13–14 details the law regarding skin diseases such as leprosy. A person had to go to a priest for a diagnosis, isolated himself from others, and then—after healing occurred—returned to the priest to be examined, cleansed, and restored to the community.

The men cried out to Jesus for mercy, and He commanded them to go and show themselves to the priests. As they went, Jesus miraculously healed them. This healing gave the men a new beginning. They would be able to return to their friends and family members. One of the men—a Samaritan among Jews—seeing that he was healed, returned to Jesus.

Luke tells us how this man responded: “He ... gave glory to God. He fell facedown at [Jesus'] feet, thanking him” (Luke 17:15-16). This humility and gratitude were evidences of faith. The man's response shows an understanding of God's mercy and goodness. Jesus declared, “Get up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you” (v. 19). This man was healed not just physically but spiritually.

The Bible says all of us have sinned. Our sin makes us unclean, but we can cry out to God like the men with leprosy: “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” God hears our prayers and answers. (See Ps. 51:17.) The gospel welcomes everyone who turns from sin and trusts in Jesus.

As you teach preschoolers, emphasize that when we trust in Jesus by faith, He heals us from something greater than a disease; He saves us from our sins. We can give Him thanks and worship Him for making us new.

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Healed Ten Men

*Luke 17*

Jesus was going to Jerusalem when He **stopped** in a small **town**. **Ten men** cried out to Him, “**Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!**” The **men** stayed away from Jesus because they **had a skin disease**. They **had to stay far away from everyone until their sickness went away so no one else would catch it.**

Jesus saw them and said, “**Go and show yourselves to the priests.**”

Jesus wanted the men to follow a law that God had given to Moses. The law said if a person had been healed from a skin disease, he had to show himself to the priest so the priest could say he had been healed.

**As the ten men went to the priest, they all were healed. One of the men hurried back to Jesus. He praised God, fell down at Jesus’ feet, and thanked Him.**

This man was not a Jew; he was from Samaria.

Jesus asked, “**Didn’t I heal ten men? Where are the others?**” Only one man had come back to say thank You and give praise to God.

Jesus said, “**Get up and go on your way. You are saved because you have faith.**”



*Christ Connection: Ten men cried out to Jesus, and He healed them. One man had faith and was saved. When we trust in Jesus, He heals us from something greater than a disease; He saves us from our sins. We can thank God and worship Him for making us new.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Use props:** Draw faces and numbers on eleven clothespins. Clip the clothespins onto a box, spacing one clothespin away from the others. As you tell the story, take ten clothespins off as the men leave. Then, place one clothespin back as you mention the one coming back to thank Jesus.
- **Move far away:** After gathering the children in the Bible story area, move to the opposite side of the room to begin telling the story to illustrate that it was important for people to stay away from someone with a skin disease. Begin moving closer to the children, joining the group to coincide with the one man returning to thank Jesus.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed Ten Men

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Luke 17

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## Welcome time

- “Nobody Like Him” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “Thankful” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Point to the items pictured on the page. Guide children to fill in the circle beside the items for which they are thankful.

**SAY** • God gives us so many things! The best gift He gives us is Jesus because Jesus saves us from our sin. In today’s Bible story, ten men with a skin disease cried out to Jesus for help. Jesus healed them. One man came back to give praise to God.

## LOW PREP

- paper
- scissors (adult use)
- marker
- basket or bag

## Count and gather

Cut 10 paper strips. Print the number *1–10* on each strip and place them in a basket or bag. Invite a child to choose a strip. Say the number and ask child to gather items from around the room to coincide with that number. Count the items. Call special attention to the numbers 1, 9, and 10. Relate these numbers to their significance in today’s Bible story.

**SAY** • Thank you for gathering 10 [item name]. In today's Bible story, **Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease**. You gathered 9 [item name]. This reminds me that 9 of the men Jesus healed who did not come back. You have one [item name]. One man returned to Jesus to thank Him and give glory to God.

## Make a people collage

Tape a large sheet of paper to a wall at children's eye level. Set out magazines, blunt-tipped scissors, and glue sticks. Invite preschoolers to look in the magazines for people images, cut them out, and glue them to the paper to create a collage. Pre-cut people images from magazines for younger preschoolers. Suggest children draw pictures of people to add to the collage as well.

- large sheet of paper
- tape
- magazines
- blunt-tipped scissors
- glue sticks
- crayons or markers

**SAY** • Jesus cares about people. One of the ways Jesus showed His care for people when He was on earth was by healing people's bodies. In today's Bible story, ten men had a skin disease. They cried out to Jesus for help. Listen to hear how Jesus helped the men in a way that only He could do.

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Begin counting to ten with each step a child takes. Chant and count steps until everyone arrives in the Bible story area.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed Ten Men

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Luke 17

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Luke 17 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • The Bible is God’s Word. Today’s story is from the New Testament book of Luke. The Book of Luke tells about what happened when Jesus lived on the earth.

This story, like all the stories in the Bible, is true!

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline.

Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- “Jesus Healed Ten Men” video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • Ten men had a terrible skin disease, but Jesus made their sickness go away! Not everyone came back to tell Jesus “thank You.” **Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease**, but only one of them returned to thank Jesus. That man had faith, and Jesus saved Him from more than just his skin disease. Jesus saved him from sin. When we trust in Jesus, He saves us from our sins too. Jesus makes us new.

## Practice the key passage

Place the key passage marker at Isaiah 53:4-5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Create motions for preschoolers to use as they say the key passage. Use the key passage song video for inspiration.

**SAY** • Our key passage comes from the Old Testament Book of Isaiah. Isaiah was a prophet and told God's words to the people. Isaiah wrote these words about Jesus long before Jesus came to earth. Isaiah said Jesus would be punished for sin to save people.

Sing the key passage song, "We Are Healed," and the theme song, "Nobody Like Him."

- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- "We Are Healed (Isaiah 53:4-5)" song
- "Nobody Like Him" song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • When the one man in our story came back to thank Jesus, he showed that he loved God and wanted to praise Him for how great He is. That's why God created each of us. Today's big picture question is, ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.*** Giving God glory means showing people how great God is.

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

**SAY** • A long time ago, a missionary named Amy Carmichael spent her life glorifying God by helping people and telling them about Jesus. She knew that Jesus can heal people and forgive their sins. Let's learn more about Amy Carmichael.

Play the missions video. Close in prayer, thanking God for missionaries like Amy Carmichael.

- "Introduction to Amy Carmichael" video

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE The Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed Ten Men

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Luke 17

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## LOW PREP

### Everybody move

Gather preschoolers. Call out actions taken by people in today's Bible story for preschoolers to play out. Suggested actions include children moving away from one another, coming back together, falling down, hopping back up, or waving arms in praise to God.

**SAY** • Everyone, let's say, "thank You, Jesus!" **Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease**, but only one of them came back to thank Him. Jesus asked where the other men were. Jesus said the man who returned was saved because he had faith. When we trust in Jesus, He heals us from something greater than a disease; He saves us from our sins. We can thank God and worship Him for making us new.

### Draw and erase sores

- "Man with a Skin Disease" printable, 1 or more per child
- dry-erase markers
- erasers or tissues
- clear plastic page protectors or gallon-sized ziplock bags
- masking tape
- markers or crayons
- Bible

Print the "Man with a Skin Disease" printable for each preschooler. Place several copies in a sheet protector or ziplock bag. Tape the covered sheets to a flat surface. Show a child how to use a dry erase marker to draw sores on the man's skin. Then use the eraser to remove the sores. Offer a copy for preschoolers to draw on with markers or crayons as they wait to use the dry erase markers. Open the Bible to Luke 17 and show a child the name *Jesus* in print.

**SAY** • When you rubbed the eraser over the man, his sores went away. When Jesus healed the ten men and made their sores go away, only one of the men came back to worship Jesus and thank Him. That man showed faith and gave glory to God. God wants all of us to love Him and give Him glory. ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.*** We can thank God and worship Him because through Jesus, we are made new.

## Make bath bombs

Post an allergy alert. Combine equal parts lemon juice and water in a spray bottle. In a large bowl, add equal parts baking soda and Epsom salt. Invite boys and girls to take turns using a large wooden spoon to stir the mixture. Shake the spray bottle. Allow preschoolers take turns spraying the liquid mixture onto the dry mixture one spray at a time. Mix after each spray. Continue until the mixture reaches the consistency of wet sand and is malleable. Add essential oils or food color if desired and stir to combine. Help preschoolers press the mixture into lined muffin tins to mold. Remove the bath bombs and store in ziplock bags.

**SAY** • Once your bath bomb dries, you can put it in your bathwater. The salts and the oils will dissolve in the water and make your skin feel smooth and soft. When **Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease**, I wonder if their skin was softer than ours will be. Jesus healed the men's skin disease, but He also heals people from something greater than sicknesses: He saves us from our sin. Let's pray and thank Jesus for taking the punishment for our sin so we can be made new when we trust Him.

- Allergy Alert
- spray bottle
- lemon juice
- water
- large bowl
- large wooden spoon
- baking soda
- Epsom salt
- paper muffin cups
- muffin tin
- ziplock bags
- essential oils (optional)
- food color (optional)

- toy medical kit
- penlights
- empty oral syringes
- bandages
- stethoscopes
- dress-up clothes

## Play out visiting a doctor's office

Set out a toy medical kit, penlights, empty oral syringes, bandages, clean, stethoscopes, dress-up clothes, and other medical related items. Invite preschoolers to play out visiting a doctor's office and to take turns being patients and medical workers.

**SAY** • In Bible times, no doctor could help people with a skin disease. They had to stay far away from everyone until their sickness went away so no one else would catch it. Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the priests. As the ten men went, they all were healed, but one man came back to praise and worship Jesus. *Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory* just like the one man did.



## Look at houses

Print "Types of Houses" and display the images around the room. Lead preschoolers on a walk around the room, looking at each house. Invite preschoolers to stand by the house they like best. Ask children to tell why they like that particular house. Invite preschoolers to stand with you next to the rundown shack.

**SAY** • This is the kind of house where a missionary named Amy chose to live. She wanted to live with the people who were poor. She wanted to help them. She prayed that God would heal the people who were sick. She taught them that Jesus loves them and wants to do more than heal their sicknesses. Jesus came to save people from sin. We can tell people, too, that Jesus loves them and wants to save them.

- "Types of Houses"  
printable
- tape

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve crackers for snack. Count out crackers as they are served and talk about how **Jesus healed ten men with a skin disease**, but only one of them hurried back to worship Jesus and thank Him. We can thank God and worship Him for making us new when we trust in Jesus.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. Why did the ten men cry out to Jesus for help? (*They had a skin disease and wanted Jesus to help them.*)
2. Jesus healed the ten men, but how many came back to thank Jesus? (*One man came back.*)
3. What did the man do when he returned to see Jesus? (*The man praised God, fell down at Jesus' feet, and thanked Him.*)
4. What did Jesus tell the man? (*Jesus told him to go on his way and that he was saved because he had faith.*)
5. ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- crackers (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "We Are Healed (Isaiah 53:4-5)" song
- "Nobody Like Him" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Use Week of:

## Unit 22 • Session 2

# Jesus Healed a Woman and a Girl

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Mark 5

### STORY POINT:

Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life.

### KEY PASSAGE:

Isaiah 53:4-5

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.



**INTRODUCE THE STORY**  
(15–20 MINUTES)  
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**TEACH THE STORY**  
(10–15 MINUTES)  
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**EXPERIENCE THE STORY**  
(20–25 MINUTES)  
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Additional resources are available at [gospelproject.com](http://gospelproject.com).

For free training and session-by-session help, visit [MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject](http://MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject).

## LEADER Bible Study

Jesus had just returned from the region of the Gerasenes, where He had healed a man with an unclean spirit. He crossed the Sea of Galilee and came on shore, where He was surrounded by a large crowd of people. News of Jesus' teachings and healings was spreading, and people wanted to see Jesus. They wanted to learn from Him and be healed.

Jairus, a leader in the synagogue, came to Jesus in crisis. His daughter was at the point of death. Without Jesus' help, she would surely die. Jesus went with Jairus, but as He walked, a woman in the crowd came up behind Him and touched His robes. She too was desperate for healing. The woman believed that Jesus' power was strong enough to heal her even if all she did was touch His robe. Because she had faith, Jesus healed her.

Imagine Jairus' devastation when he heard that his daughter had died. The people suggested that Jesus was too late to help her, but Jesus proved them wrong. He went to Jairus' house and raised the little girl from the dead.

Through His healing miracles, Jesus showed His power as the Messiah. Jesus died on the cross and rose again to save people from sin and death. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sins and changes us to be more like His Son.

As you teach preschoolers, point out that the woman and the father of the little girl came to Jesus in faith. They needed Jesus' help, and they trusted in Jesus' power to heal. After Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, He ascended to heaven. Even though Jesus is not physically on earth today, we can pray and ask God to heal people who are sick. Whether or not God grants immediate physical healing, we can rest knowing that He brings ultimate healing through His Son, Jesus.

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Healed a Woman and a Girl

*Mark 5*

**One day, Jesus was teaching** people by the sea. **A large crowd** gathered around Him. **Suddenly, a man named Jairus (JIGH ruhs)—**who was a ruler in the synagogue—**fell at Jesus’ feet.** Jairus begged Jesus to help him.

**“My daughter is very sick,”** Jairus said.

**“Please come touch her so she will be healed and live.”** Jesus went with Jairus, and the crowd followed.

**A woman in the crowd** needed Jesus’ help, too. She **had been bleeding for many years,** but no doctors could help her. **The woman believed Jesus could heal her, so she reached out and touched His clothes.** All of a sudden, the woman’s bleeding stopped. **She was healed!**

**Jesus turned around.** “Who touched My clothes?” He asked. The woman came forward and fell before Jesus. She told Him what had happened.

**Jesus said to her, “Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace. You are healed.”**

**While Jesus was talking to the woman, some men came from Jairus’ house. “Your daughter has died,”** they said. “Leave Jesus alone.”



Jesus heard this news and **told Jairus, “Do not be afraid. Just believe.”**

Jesus went to **Jairus’ house**. People there were crying loudly. **“Why are you crying?” Jesus asked. “The child is not dead. She is sleeping.”**

The people laughed at Jesus because they thought He was wrong. Jesus took **Jairus and his wife into the room where the child was. He held the girl’s hand and said, “Little girl, get up.”**

The girl got up and began walking around. Jairus and his wife were amazed! **Jesus told them** to give the girl some food and **to not tell anyone what had happened.**

*Christ Connection: Jesus showed His power as the Messiah. Jesus can heal and give dead people life! Jesus died on the cross and rose again to save people from sin and death. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sins and changes us to be more like His Son.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Invite a guest:** Invite a man, woman, or girl to dress in Bible times clothing and tell the Bible story from the perspective of Jairus, the woman who was healed, or Jairus’ daughter.
- **Listen for the word:** Encourage preschoolers to hold out their hands when they hear the word touch.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed a Woman and a Girl

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Mark 5

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## Welcome time

- "Nobody Like Him" song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church's security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- "Match the Shadows" activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Invite preschoolers to draw a line to match the people to their shadows.

**SAY** • In today's exciting Bible story, a woman reached out and touched Jesus' clothes because she knew He could help her. We will also hear that Jesus met a man whose daughter had died, but Jesus' power brought the girl back to life.

## LOW PREP

## Touch classroom items

Gather preschoolers. Instruct children to move around the room and touch something that is blue. Next instruct children to find something with legs and touch it. Locate something that is square-shaped and move to touch it. Continue describing various items located throughout the classroom for children to touch.

**SAY** • Nothing special happened when we touched the

items in our classroom, but something very special happens when Jesus touches people. In today's Bible story, a man begged Jesus to come to His house. He said, "My daughter is very sick. "Please come touch her so she will be healed and live." Listen to the Bible story to find out what happened when Jesus was on His way to the little girl.

## Sort fabric

Cut two or more squares each from a variety of fabric. Mix up the fabric and set them out on a table. Invite preschoolers to sort the fabric. Comment on how the fabric feels as they sort. For an added challenge, consider encouraging a child to sort the fabric blindfolded or with their eyes closed, sorting based on the feel of the fabric.

**SAY** • Let's feel our clothes. How does your shirt or dress feel? [*Allow responses.*] In today's Bible story, a woman reached out and touched Jesus' clothes, but she was not trying to find out how Jesus' robe felt. Listen to the Bible story to hear why she reached out to touch Jesus.

- fabric
- scissors (adult use)
- blindfold (optional)

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Invite all the girls to move to the Bible story area first. Once the girls have chosen their seats, invite the boys to join them.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed a Woman and a Girl

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Mark 5

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Mark 5 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • The Book of Mark is the second of four books called the Gospels. That is where we find today's Bible story. Everything in the Bible helps us learn about Jesus, but the Gospels tell about things that happened when Jesus lived on the earth.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- "Jesus Healed a Woman and a Girl" video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • No one had been able to help the woman and Jairus' daughter—no one until Jesus! **Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life.** Jesus showed His power as the Messiah. Jesus showed His power in an even greater way when He died on the cross and rose again. When we trust in Jesus, He saves us from sin and gives us life with God forever.

## Practice the key passage

Print the words of the key passage on the palms of latex-free gloves. Place the key passage marker at Isaiah 53:4-5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Invite boys and girls to wear the gloves. Read the words and arrange children's gloved hands to form the key passage. Touch the words on the gloves as you lead children to say the passage.

**SAY** • Sin makes our hearts sick. Sin keeps us from God, but Jesus took the punishment we deserve for our sin. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sins and changes us to be more like His Son.

Sing the key passage song, "We Are Healed," and the theme song, "Nobody Like Him."

- Bible
- latex-free gloves
- fine-tipped marker
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- "We Are Healed (Isaiah 53:4-5)" song
- "Nobody Like Him" song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • Our big picture question asks, *Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.* Who got glory when **Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life?** Jesus! God can even make sickness and death bring Him glory!

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

Show preschoolers the picture of Amy Carmichael.

**SAY** • This is Amy Carmichael. Amy was from a country called Ireland, but she was a missionary in Japan and India. She lived in India for a very long time. The children whom she worked with called her *Amma*, which means "mother." She helped many children and taught them about Jesus.

Close in prayer for missionaries.

- "Amy Carmichael Photo" printable

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed a Woman and a Girl

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Mark 5

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## LOW PREP

- sticky notes
- Bible
- bookmark
- “We Are Healed” song (optional)
- “Nobody Like Him” song (optional)

### Play sticky note tag

Place a bookmark at Mark 5 in a Bible. Separate a pad of sticky notes and give an equal number to each child. Tell boys and girls that when the music starts, they should put a sticky note on a friend’s back while trying to prevent any other friends from attaching a sticky note to their own back. Play music and signal the children to begin. Continue playing until each child’s sticky notes have all been played.

**SAY** • When a friend stuck a note to your back, did you feel him touch you? Could you tell which friend was attaching the note to you? Jesus knew someone had touched His robe, and the woman believed Jesus could heal her. Let’s open the Bible to Mark 5, the place where we read that **Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life**. Jesus held the girl’s hand, and she became alive again. Jesus can heal and give dead people life!

### Worship with music

Give a rhythm instrument to each child and play the key passage song, “We Are Healed.” Practice singing the passage and keep a steady beat with the instruments. Lead children to sing the story point to the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know It” or another familiar tune.

- rhythm instruments
- “We Are Healed (Isaiah 53:4-5)” song

**SAY** • God is happy to hear us sing about how wonderful He is. Worshiping God gives Him glory, and that's what God created us to do! ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.*** God sent His Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus showed His power when He healed people and brought dead people back to life. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin and makes us more like Jesus.

## Write in a journal

Print and assemble a “My Journal about Jesus” for each preschooler before the session. Set out crayons or markers. Lead children through the journal, reading the directions for each page and offering suggestions when needed. If a child does not finish her journal, she may take it home to complete with her family.

- “My Journal about Jesus” printable, 1 per child
- stapler
- crayons or markers

**SAY** • A journal is a booklet where people write or draw things they think about. I like how you traced the letters that spell *JESUS*. Drawing pictures of things you have learned about Jesus is one way to help you love God more. ***Why did God create people like you and me? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.*** When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sins and changes us to be more like His Son. Jesus loves God perfectly and always gives Him glory.

## Examine fingerprints

Set out washable stamp pads and paper. Show a child how to gently press a finger into the ink and then press it on the paper to reveal her fingerprint. Wipe off remaining ink from her finger. Encourage her to repeat the process with

- washable stamp pads
- copy paper
- wipes for cleanup
- magnifying glasses

other fingers and ink colors. Offer children magnifying glasses to examine one another's fingerprints.

**SAY** • I wonder what Jesus' fingerprints look like. After Jairus' daughter had died, Jesus held the girl's hand in His hand. Jesus told her to get up, and He made her alive again. She got up and began to walk around!

**Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life.** Jesus showed that only He is powerful enough to save people from sin and death when they trust in Him. When God forgives our sins, He changes us to make us more like Jesus.



### Play with baby dolls

Set out baby dolls, doll accessories, and Bible storybooks. Encourage preschoolers to "read" the Bible stories to the babies. As they play, remind preschoolers that Amy Carmichael, a missionary in India, took care of many babies. She fed them and rocked them. She loved them and told them Bible stories. When they were sick, Amy prayed that God would heal them.

**SAY** • **Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life.** He cared about the woman and girl. Amy Carmichael cared about people too. Amy loved children and wanted them to know how much Jesus loved them too. Amy took care of babies like you are taking care of these baby dolls. ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory?*** We glorify God when we care for the people He made.

- baby dolls and blankets
- baby toys
- Bible storybooks

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Provide heart-shaped cookie cutters and show a child how to press it into cheese or bread slices to form the shape. Mention that **Jesus healed a woman and brought a girl back to life** because He loved them.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What did Jairus ask Jesus to do for him? (*Jairus asked Jesus to come to his house and heal his daughter.*)
2. Who in the crowd touched Jesus' robe? (*a woman who had been sick for many years*)
3. What happened to the woman when she touched Jesus' clothes? (*The bleeding stopped; Jesus healed her.*)
4. What happened to Jairus' daughter before Jesus got to the house? (*The girl died.*)
5. What did Jesus do for the girl? (*Jesus took her hand, told her to get up, and she became alive again!*)
6. ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- heart-shaped cookie cutters (optional)
- cheese slices (optional)
- sliced bread (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "We Are Healed (Isaiah 53:4-5)" song
- "Nobody Like Him" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers



Use Week of:

Unit 22 • Session 3  
**Jesus Healed a Man  
Who Was Lame**

**BIBLE PASSAGE:**

John 5

**STORY POINT:**

Jesus healed a man who could not walk.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

**INTRODUCE THE STORY**  
(15–20 MINUTES)  
PAGE 34



**TEACH THE STORY**  
(10–15 MINUTES)  
PAGE 36



**EXPERIENCE THE STORY**  
(20–25 MINUTES)  
PAGE 38



Additional resources are available at [gospelproject.com](http://gospelproject.com).

For free training and session-by-session help, visit [MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject](http://MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject).

## LEADER Bible Study

Located in the city of Jerusalem, the pool of Bethesda was a place many believed to possess healing powers. People who were sick or disabled went to the pool in hope of being made whole. They believed an angel would stir up the waters, and the first person to get in would be healed. Some translations include this detail in verse 4; but since the earliest and most accurate manuscripts do not include the detail, most contemporary translations omit it as well.

Jesus sought out a man at the pool of Bethesda who had been disabled for 38 years. Jesus asked the man, “Do you want to get well?” The man, not recognizing who was talking to him (see John 5:13), explained his inability to get to the pool in time. Filled with compassion, Jesus commanded this man: “Get up, pick up your mat, and walk.” After decades of helplessness, the man was instantly healed. He picked up his mat and walked.

At this time, Jesus slipped away through the crowd. So when the Jewish leaders approached the man, asking questions about the healing and accusing the man of breaking the law by picking up his mat on the Sabbath, the man could not even identify who healed him. Yet Jesus sought out the man a second time. Jesus found the man in the temple and warned him, “Do not sin anymore, so that something worse doesn’t happen to you.”

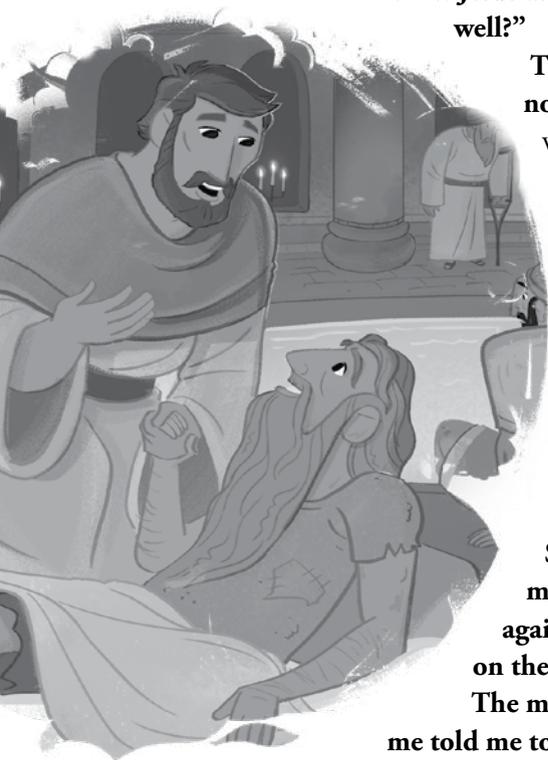
Jesus cared about the man’s body; He had healed it. But Jesus cared more about the man’s soul. As you teach preschoolers, emphasize that the man at the pool was unable to help himself. Jesus healed him, and he obeyed Jesus’ commands. In a similar way, we are unable to free ourselves from sin. Jesus calls us to trust in Him. When we trust in Jesus, He frees us from the power of sin and death so we can follow Him and obey Him.

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Lame

*John 5*

Jesus went to Jerusalem and stood by a pool called Bethesda (buh THEZ duh). Many sick people were lying by the pool. Some could not see, others could not walk, and some were paralyzed. **Jesus saw a man who could not walk.** The man had been there a long time. **Jesus asked him, “Do you want to get well?”**



**The man answered, “Sir, I have no one to put me in the pool when the water is stirred up. Someone else always gets in before me.”** The man thought if he could get into the water, he would be able to walk again.

**Jesus said, “Get up, pick up your mat, and walk.” Right away, the man was healed. He picked up his mat and started to walk.**

**This happened on the Sabbath, so the Jews told the man who was healed, “It is against the law to pick up your mat on the Sabbath.”**

**The man said, “The man who healed me told me to pick up my mat and walk.”** “Who was the man?” the Jews asked. But the man who was healed did not know who had healed him. By this time, Jesus had slipped away into the crowd.

Later, Jesus found the healed man in the temple area. Jesus said

to him, “See, you are healed. Now stop sinning so that something worse doesn’t happen to you.”

The man went to tell the Jews that Jesus had healed him. So **the Jews tried to stop Jesus because He was healing people on the Sabbath. Jesus told them, “My Father is always working, so I am working too.”**

**Now the Jews hated Jesus even more. Not only did He break their rule about not working on the Sabbath, He was saying that He is God’s Son. Jesus is God’s Son, and He always did what God said was right.**

*Christ Connection: The man at the pool needed help. Jesus healed him, and he obeyed Jesus. In a similar way, we are sinners who need Jesus’ help. Jesus wants us to trust in Him. Jesus can free us from sin so we can follow Him and obey Him.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

### **• Sit on a mat:**

Arrange dish or hand towels in the story area. Request boys and girls choose a mat and lie on it. At the proper time in the story, instruct children to move off their mats, pick them up, and hold them in their laps for the remainder of the story.

### **• Tell the story beside a pool:**

Bring a clean plastic swimming pool into the story area. Sit around the pool as you tell the story. Pretend the water is stirred up and emphasize that the man could not reach the pool because he could not walk.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Lame

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** John 5

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed a man who could not walk.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## Welcome time

- “Nobody Like Him” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “What Is Hiding?” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Guide children to find and circle the hidden items using the key as a guide.

**SAY** • You circled some hidden items in a picture that show Jesus with a man who could not walk. The man needed help. Do you think Jesus helped him? Listen to today’s Bible story to find out.

## LOW PREP

- paper in several colors

## Pick it up

Gather paper in several colors. Tear paper into small pieces and scatter on the floor. Make sure you have more pieces of each color than children. Gather preschoolers and identify the different colors represented. Call out a color. Tell children that when you say “pick it up,” they should all pick up a piece of paper of that color. Play until all the paper pieces are picked up. If time allows, scatter the paper pieces and play again.

**SAY** • In today's Bible story, Jesus told a man to pick up his mat. Picking up a mat does not sound much different than picking up paper like we just did, but this man could not walk. Listen to the story to find out if the man was able to obey Jesus.

## Weave a mat

Before the session, fold a sheet of construction paper in half and make five evenly spaced cuts from the folded side to one inch from the end. Repeat for each preschooler. Use different colors of construction paper to make an assortment of 1½-inch strips.

- construction paper
- scissors (adult use)
- glue sticks
- foam sheets, 1 per child

Demonstrate to a preschooler how to weave a paper strip over and under through the cuts in his paper. Encourage him to continue weaving until no more strips will fit. He may use a glue stick to secure the strips in place. Help the preschooler glue his artwork to a foam sheet. Trim the foam sheet with scissors to fit the artwork if necessary.

**SAY** • Your mats are very cool! In today's Bible story, Jesus was standing by a pool in Jerusalem. He saw a man sitting near the pool on a mat. The man could not walk and had been sitting on his mat by the pool a long time. Jesus asked him, "Do you want to get well?" Listen to the story to hear how the man answered Jesus.

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Suggest boys and girls pat their legs as they walk to the Bible study area.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Lame

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** John 5

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed a man who could not walk.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at John 5 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • The Bible is the most special book of all. The Bible is God's Word, and all God's words are true! Today's Bible story comes from the Book of John in the New Testament part of the Bible.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- "Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Lame" video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • Jesus saw a man who could not walk lying by a pool. The man had been there a long time because he could not put himself in the pool. Jesus told the man to get up, pick up his mat, and walk. All of a sudden, he was healed! Then the man did what Jesus said. **Jesus healed a man who could not walk.** Like that man, when we trust in Jesus and obey Him, He frees us from sin so we can follow Him.

## Practice the key passage

Place the key passage marker at Isaiah 53:4-5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Lead children to say the passage while sitting down but to jump up to say the reference. Repeat several times.

**SAY** • We are sinners who need Jesus' help. Jesus took the punishment for our sins when He died on the cross. When we trust in Jesus, He gives us peace with God. Sing the key passage song, "We Are Healed," and the theme song, "Nobody Like Him."

- Bible
- marker
- index cards
- masking tape
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- "We Are Healed (Isaiah 53:4-5)" song
- "Nobody Like Him" song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • Our big picture question asks, *Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.* The man by the pool could not help himself, but Jesus could! We need help too. We need to be set free from sin. Only Jesus can do that for us. When we trust in Him, Jesus frees us from sin so we can follow Him and obey Him. Following and obeying Jesus gives God glory!

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

**SAY** • God healed a friend of missionary Amy Carmichael in a special way, too. Listen to the story. Read "A Special Healing" aloud to preschoolers.

**SAY** • God answered Amy's prayers and healed her friend. Missionaries pray for God to heal people and that people will love and follow Jesus. We can do that too! Close in prayer, praying for God to heal and save people, but also thanking God for the ministry of Amy Carmichael.

- "A Special Healing" printable

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Lame

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** John 5

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed a man who could not walk.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## LOW PREP

• painter's tape

### Use your legs

Place a long piece of painter's tape down the center of the room. Give commands related to legs for children to follow. Use the following or create your own.

- Jump over the line.
- Walk on the line.
- Hop on top of the line.
- Tiptoe next to the line.
- Stand on one foot on the line.
- Straddle the line.

**SAY** • You used your legs to do what I asked you to do! The man at the pool was able to use his legs to do what Jesus asked him to do because Jesus healed him! **Jesus healed a man who could not walk**, and the man obeyed Jesus. In a similar way, we are sinners who need Jesus' help. Jesus wants us to trust in Him. Jesus can free us from sin so we can follow Him and obey Him.

### Talk about the Sabbath day

Print and cut apart the "Sabbath Day Laws" cards. Cut apart the printable cards. Tape the card labeled *Sabbath Day Laws* to the outside of a bag or basket. Place the seven remaining cards in the bag. Invite a child to take a

- "Sabbath Day Laws" printable
- scissors (adult use)
- bag or basket
- tape
- calendar

card from the bag. Read the card to the group. If the card represents a workday, guide children to pretend to perform the task. When the Sabbath card is chosen, pause to rest.

**SAY** • Let's look at a calendar and count the seven days in a week. One of the Ten Commandments that God gave His people said to remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. The religious leaders made up extra rules to add to God's rule about the Sabbath. Their rules made life sad and hard. **Jesus healed a man who could not walk** on the Sabbath. Jesus knew God's rules are for His glory and His people's joy.

## Play in water

Fill a large plastic container with about two inches of water. Set towels nearby. Provide pipettes, funnels, and cups. Remind children to be careful to keep the cups above the tub to prevent messes and encourage boys and girls to wipe up water when spills invariably happen.

- plastic bin
- water
- pipettes, funnels, cups, and other water play items
- towels

**SAY** • Look how the water is sloshing in the tub. The man in our Bible story thought that if he could get into a pool while the water was stirred up, his legs would work. The man never got into the pool; he met Jesus instead. **Jesus healed a man who could not walk**, and the man obeyed Jesus. In a similar way, we are sinners who need Jesus' help. Jesus wants us to trust in Him. Jesus can free us from sin so we can follow Him and obey Him.

## Roll out a play dough mat

Give each preschooler a ball of play dough and a play dough rolling pin. Show them how to roll the dough flat and then use a craft stick to trim the dough into a mat shape. Offer a

- play dough
- play dough rolling pins
- craft sticks
- plastic people figures

child plastic people figures to use to play out the Bible story of the man picking up his mat and walking.

**SAY** • **Jesus healed a man who could not walk.** Before he met Jesus, the man lay on a mat hoping to get into the pool that he thought would help him. All people need the kind of help that only Jesus can give. Jesus wants people to trust in Him so He can free them from sin.



### Look at clothes from other nations

- “How Did Amy Dress?” printable, 1 set per child
- blunt-tipped scissors
- books depicting people from other nations

Print a copy of “How Did Amy Dress?” for each preschooler. Invite preschoolers to cut apart the cards. Explain that missionary Amy Carmichael wanted to be like the people she lived with, so she dressed like them. As you discuss each land where Amy served, hold up that picture and guide preschoolers to hold up their matching picture. Set out books showing people from different nations than you. Invite preschoolers to browse through the books and notice how people are dressed.

**SAY** • When missionary Amy Carmichael lived in Ireland, she dressed like this. When she lived in Japan, she chose to dress like this. This dress is called a *kimono*. When Amy lived in India, she dressed like this. This outfit is called a *sari*. Amy wanted to be like the people she lived with. It made it easier for her to tell them about Jesus. We are all different, but Jesus loves us all and wants all of us to love Him. ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.***

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve fruit leather for snack. Talk about how **Jesus healed a man who could not walk**. Recall that when Jesus told him to, the man obeyed Jesus and got up, picked up his mat, and walked. Suggest children roll and unroll their fruit leather strip as they remember the Bible story.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. Whom did Jesus meet by the pool? (*a man who could not walk*)
2. What did Jesus do for the man? (*Jesus healed him.*)
3. What did the man do after Jesus healed him? (*obeyed Jesus; got up, picked up his mat, and walked*)
4. Why were the Jewish leaders angry with Jesus? (*He broke their rule about not working on the Sabbath and said that He is God's Son.*)
5. ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- fruit leather (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "We Are Healed (Isaiah 53:4-5)" song
- "Nobody Like Him" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers



Use Week of:

Unit 22 • Session 4  
**Jesus Healed a Man  
Who Was Blind**

**BIBLE PASSAGE:**

John 9

**STORY POINT:**

Jesus healed a man who could not see.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

**INTRODUCE THE STORY**  
(15–20 MINUTES)  
**PAGE 46**



**TEACH THE STORY**  
(10–15 MINUTES)  
**PAGE 48**



**EXPERIENCE THE STORY**  
(20–25 MINUTES)  
**PAGE 50**



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For free training and session-by-session help, visit [MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject](http://MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject).

## LEADER Bible Study

In the Old Testament, Isaiah prophesied about the coming Messiah. Isaiah 35:5-6 tells about a time when “the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will sing for joy.” When God the Son came to earth, He came as a Healer—removing skin diseases, raising the dead to life, making the lame walk, and giving sight to the blind.

John 9 gives us a glimpse of the kingdom of God, where creation is redeemed, and opens our eyes to the greater purpose of suffering in our lives. The disciples asked Jesus a question that many still wrestle with today: Why is this person suffering? (In this case, why was this man born blind?) Was it because of sin?

Jesus’ answer gives hope to anyone facing suffering: “Neither this man nor his parents sinned. This came about so that God’s works might be displayed in him” (John 9:3). Because Jesus is Lord over everything, all suffering in this life has meaning and purpose.

Miraculously, Jesus gave sight to the man who was blind. The man’s neighbors noticed the change, and he told them what Jesus had done for him. But the reaction of the religious leaders—skepticism and unbelief—reveals a different kind of blindness: spiritual blindness. Sin keeps us from seeing what is true about God. Jesus came as light into a dark world. He helps us see what is true so we can know God.

Those who trust in Jesus are freed from sin and worship Jesus as Lord. We can live fully in the light of Jesus as we seek to make Him known to others so that their eyes might be opened to the truth of the gospel as well.

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Blind

*John 9*

Jesus was walking with His disciples when He saw a man who had been born blind. The disciples asked, “Teacher, why was this man born blind? Did this happen because he sinned or because his parents sinned?”

Jesus answered, “Sin did not cause this. This man was born blind so that people could see God’s power.”

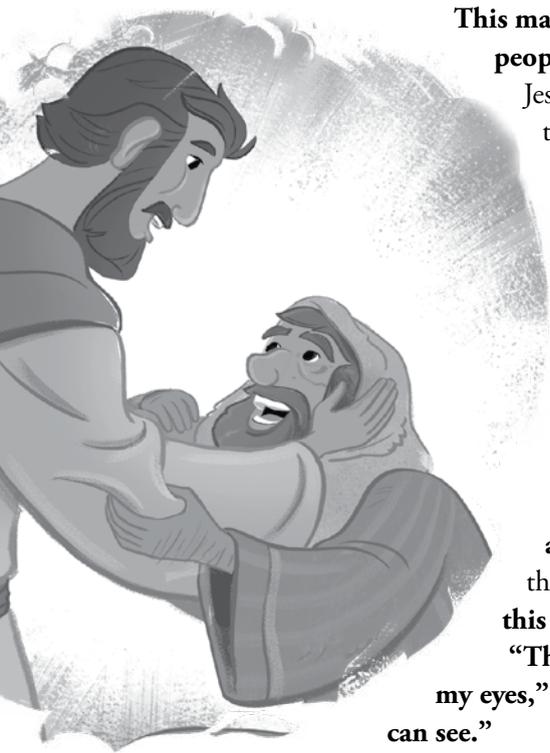
Jesus also said, “While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

Then Jesus spit on the ground. He made mud and put it on the eyes of the man who was blind. “Go and wash in the pool of Siloam,” Jesus told him. The man went and washed. When he came back, he could see!

The man’s neighbors were amazed. They took the man to the religious leaders. “How did this happen?” they asked.

“The man called Jesus put mud on my eyes,” he said. “I washed, and now I can see.”

The religious leaders did not want to believe that Jesus could give sight to people who were blind. Again, the man who was healed told the religious leaders what happened. He believed Jesus must have come from God. But the religious leaders threw the man out



of the synagogue.

**Jesus found the man and asked, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”**

**The man answered, “Tell me who He is so I can believe in Him.”**

**“You have already seen Him,” Jesus said. “The Son of Man is talking to you now.”**

**The man said, “I believe, Lord!” and he worshiped Jesus.**

*Christ Connection: Sin keeps us from seeing what is true about God. Jesus came as light into a dark world. He helps us see what is true so we can know God. Those who trust in Jesus are freed from sin and worship Jesus as Lord.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Close your eyes:** Suggest preschoolers close or cover their eyes as you begin to tell the Bible story. At the moment when the man in the story washes the mud off his eyes and can see, ask the children to uncover or open their eyes.
- **Use different voices:** As you tell the Bible story, change your voice to represent the different Bible people. Mimic actions when appropriate as well.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Blind

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** John 9

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed a man who could not see.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## Welcome time

- “Nobody Like Him” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “What Helps People See?” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Lead children to look at the items on the activity page. Help them identify the ones that might help someone see and circle them. Talk about the items as children work.

**SAY** • Swim goggles help people to see underwater, and sunglasses help people see when the sun is shining brightly. In today’s Bible story, Jesus met a man who could not see—not even with glasses to help him. Listen to the story to hear how Jesus helped the man.

## LOW PREP

- tape
- red construction paper
- green construction paper

## Say if you believe

Tape a green piece of paper and a red piece of paper to opposite walls. Ask questions that include a statement that may or may not be accurate. Instruct children to move to the green paper if they believe the statement and to the red paper if they do not believe the statement. Use the following questions or create your own.

- Do you believe the sky is purple?
- Do you believe a whale would make a good pet?
- Do you believe broccoli tastes good?
- Do you believe I am the tallest person in the room?
- Do you believe I can count to 100?

End with, “Do you believe Jesus is God’s Son?”

**SAY** • In today’s Bible story, Jesus asked a man, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” The Son of Man is a name that Jesus often called Himself. Jesus is fully God and fully man. Jesus was asking the man if he believed in Him. Listen to the Bible story to hear how the man answered.

## Wash dishes

Fill a plastic tub with a couple of inches of water. Give a preschooler a sponge and show him how to wash toy dishes. Demonstrate how to wipe a dish dry with the towels.

**SAY** • When our dishes at home get dirty, we wash them.

In today’s Bible story, Jesus put mud on a man’s eyes and told him to wash off the mud. Listen to the story to find out what happened when the man washed the mud off his eyes.

- clean sponges
- toy dishes
- plastic tub
- water
- hand towels

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Walk around the room and quietly tell each child one of the many names that Jesus was called (Lord, Rabbi, Light of the world, Master, Teacher, Counselor, Savior, Immanuel, Son of God, the Word, Lamb of God, Bread of life, Christ, Prince of peace, Son of Man).

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Blind

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** John 9

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed a man who could not see.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at John 9 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • I told each of you one of the many names that Jesus was called as we moved to Bible study. Jesus' disciples called Him Teacher. When Jesus was born, the angel said Jesus would be called Immanuel. In today's true story from the Book of John, Jesus called Himself the Son of Man, and a man called Him Lord.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- "Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Blind" video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • When Jesus met a man who had been blind his entire life, Jesus helped His disciples understand that the man's blindness was not punishment for sin. **Jesus healed a man who could not see** so people could see God's power. Jesus frees us from sin so that we can see and know what is true about God.

## Practice the key passage

Place the key passage marker at Isaiah 53:4-5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Allow preschoolers to take turns saying the passage from memory. Offer assistance as needed. Affirm all efforts.

**SAY** • Our key passage is about Jesus. Sin keeps us from seeing what is true about God, but Jesus died on the cross to save us from sin. Those who trust in Jesus are freed from sin and worship Jesus as Lord.

Sing the key passage song, “We Are Healed,” and the theme song, “Nobody Like Him.”

- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “We Are Healed (Isaiah 53:4-5)” song
- “Nobody Like Him” song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • After **Jesus healed a man who could not see**, the man believed Jesus was God’s Son and worshiped Him. ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.*** Everyone who trusts in Jesus for forgiveness of sin can love and worship Him like God made us to do.

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

Show children photos from the gallery on the Dohnavur (don-Ah-vur) Fellowship website. Print photos ahead of time if your room does not have Internet access.

**SAY** • Amy Carmichael was a missionary in India a long time ago. She started a special home for children where they could be loved and hear about Jesus. Though Amy died many years ago, believers are still there loving children and teaching them about Jesus. Close in prayer for the Dohnavur Fellowship.

- electronic tablet or smart device
- Dohnavur Fellowship website: [www.dohnavurfellowship.org](http://www.dohnavurfellowship.org)

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Blind

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** John 9

**STORY POINT:** Jesus healed a man who could not see.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 53:4-5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

## LOW PREP

- blocks
- blindfolds (optional)

### Build blindfolded

Set a few blocks in front of a child. Invite the child to build with the blocks either wearing a blindfold or closing her eyes. When the child is finished with her structure, encourage her to remove the blindfold or open her eyes. Ask if the structure looks the way she wanted it.

**SAY** • The man in our Bible story today may have had hard time doing things he wanted to do. After Jesus' disciples asked why the man was blind, **Jesus healed a man who could not see** to help them understand that the man's blindness was to show how powerful God is. Like the man's eyes when he was blind, sin makes the world a dark place. Jesus came to be a light in a dark world, and He helps people see what is true.

### Work puzzles and review

Print an extra set of this unit's Bible story picture posters, the big picture question and answer poster, and the key passage poster. Cut the posters into four or five pieces to create puzzles. Lay the pieces on a flat surface and help children work the puzzles, recalling the way Jesus helped people. Read the big picture question and review the answer. Read the key passage poster and lead preschoolers

- Unit 22 Bible Story Picture Posters
- Big Picture Question Poster
- Key Passage Poster
- scissors (adult use)

to practice saying it. Challenge a child to attempt to work a puzzle with her eyes closed.

**SAY** • In each of these stories, we learned how Jesus healed people who needed help. He showed His power through the words that He said and the things that He did. Soon people began to understand Jesus' power came from God, and they gave Him glory and worshiped Him. ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.*** When we love and trust in Jesus, He frees us from sin and we worship Him as Lord.

## Make mud dough

Post an allergy alert and put a smock on each child. Give each child a plastic spoon and a foam bowl and plate. Put 1 cup of dried potato flakes and 1 tablespoon of cocoa powder in each child's bowl. Guide them to mix the two together with a spoon. Then add  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup of water to each bowl while children continue to mix. Encourage children to knead their mud dough on their foam plate. Encourage children to play with their dough. Suggest they form the letter *J* for *Jesus*. Store and send home each child's dough in a ziplock bag.

**SAY** • Your dough looks a lot like mud. In today's Bible story, **Jesus healed a man who could not see** by doing something surprising. He gathered some dirt in His hand and spit on it to make mud. Then Jesus put the mud on the man's eyes and told him to wash it off. After the man washed, he worshiped Jesus because he could see. Jesus helps us to see what is true so we can know God and be freed from sin.

- Allergy Alert
- smocks (optional)
- plastic spoons, 1 per child
- foam bowl, 1 per child
- foam plate, 1 per child
- dried potato flakes, 1 cup per child
- cocoa powder, 1 tablespoon per child
- water,  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup per child
- measuring cups and spoons
- ziplock bags, 1 per child

Tip: Caution preschoolers not to put the dough in their eyes.

- small classroom objects
- paper lunch sacks

## Guess the item

Gather an assortment of small items. Place each item in a paper lunch sack and fold down the top. Invite preschoolers to take turns feeling each item without looking in the bag. Encourage them to guess each item. Reveal the contents of the bag after children have guessed.

**SAY** • It's not easy to know what something is when you can't see it. **Jesus healed a man who could not see.** Sin keeps us from seeing what is true about God in our hearts. Jesus helps us see what is true so we can know God.



## Hang pictures on a line

- "Dohnavur Fellowship Today" printable
- yarn
- scissors (adult use)
- clothespins or tape
- crayons

Hang a long string of yarn against a wall in your room like a clothesline. Give each preschooler a "Dohnavur Fellowship Today" printable. Guide children to color the images and cut them apart. When preschoolers finish, invite them to hang their pictures on the yarn with clothespins or tape.

**SAY** • The home for children Amy Carmichael started in India more than 100 years ago is still there today! It has gotten even bigger! Each of these pictures shows something happening there today. The bed is for the places where children can safely sleep. The cow is for a dairy on the land, where children can get fresh milk. The notebook is for the schools where children learn. The plants are for the food that they grow to feed the children. Look at all the wonderful things happening in India because one missionary chose to live her whole life there. Let's pray and thank God for the work He has done through Amy Carmichael and those after her!

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve mixed fruit for snack. Talk about the variety of colors in today's snack. Mention that **Jesus healed a man who could not see** and speculate how wonderful it must have been for the man to see colors for the very first time.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. Why did Jesus say the man was blind? (*so people could see God's power*)
2. What did Jesus do with the mud that He mixed together? (*Jesus put it on the blind man's eyes and told him to wash it off.*)
3. What happened after the man rinsed the mud off the his eyes? (*The man could see.*)
4. What did the man do after he learned that Jesus was God's Son? (*The man believed and worshiped Him.*)
5. ***Why did God create people? God created people to love Him and give Him glory.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- mixed fruit (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "We Are Healed (Isaiah 53:4-5)" song
- "Nobody Like Him" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

# Unit 23: Jesus the Teacher

## Unit Description:

Jesus preached to many people so they could learn about God. Jesus taught how believers should live, and He told parables about the kingdom of God. He showed that God wants His people to be saved from sin.

## Key Passage:

John 14:26

## Big Picture Question:

What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Session 1:

### The Sermon on the Mount

*Matthew 5–7*

**Story Point:** Jesus taught people about God's kingdom.

## Session 2:

### The Cost of Following Jesus

*Matthew 8; 16; Luke 9; 14*

**Story Point:** Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.

## Session 3:

### Jesus Taught About Prayer

*Luke 11; 18*

**Story Point:** Jesus taught people how to pray.

## Session 4:

### Jesus Taught About Possessions

*Luke 12*

**Story Point:** Jesus taught people not to worry.

## Session 5:

### The Good Shepherd

*John 10*

**Story Point:** Jesus is the Good Shepherd.



## **The Sermon on the Mount**

Jesus taught people about God's kingdom.



## **The Cost of Following Jesus**

Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.



## **Jesus Taught About Prayer**

Jesus taught people how to pray.



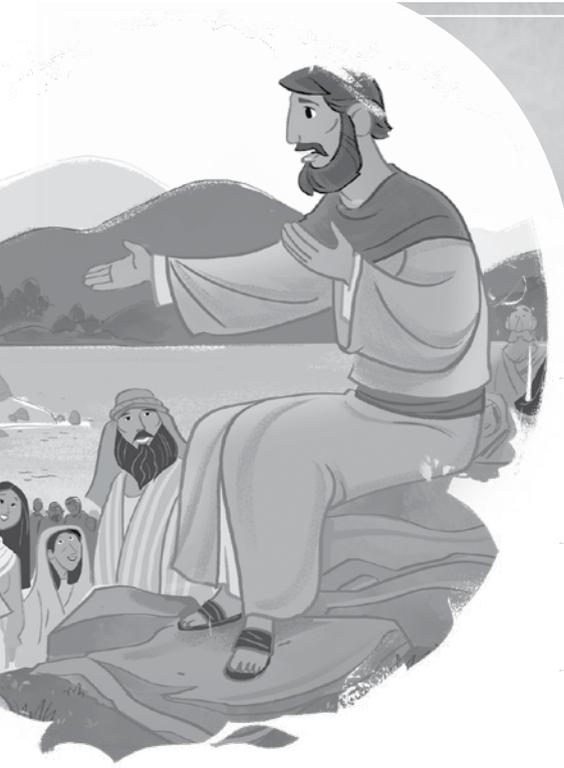
## **Jesus Taught About Possessions**

Jesus taught people not to worry.



## **The Good Shepherd**

Jesus is the Good Shepherd.



Use Week of:

## Unit 23 • Session 1

# The Sermon on the Mount

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Matthew 5–7

### STORY POINT:

Jesus taught people about God's kingdom.

### KEY PASSAGE:

John 14:26

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

#### INTRODUCE THE STORY

(15–20 MINUTES)

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#### TEACH THE STORY

(10–15 MINUTES)

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#### EXPERIENCE THE STORY

(20–25 MINUTES)

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Additional resources are available at [gospelproject.com](http://gospelproject.com).

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## LEADER Bible Study

One of Jesus' most well-known teachings is the Sermon on the Mount. On that day, crowds of people had come to hear Jesus. Jesus went up on a mountain in Galilee, sat down, and began to teach.

Jesus' sermon is recorded across three chapters in the Gospel of Matthew, 5–7, and it tells how believers should live. While Matthew 5:1-2 specifies that Jesus taught His disciples, Matthew 7:28 reveals that the crowds listened to His sermon as well.

First, Jesus began with the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes describe God's great blessings for believers. God's kingdom belongs to the spiritually needy, God will comfort those who are sad, and God will give mercy to those who show mercy to others. Jesus gives believers reason to be glad when life on earth is hard because great rewards await in heaven.

Jesus also taught how believers should live in a world that does not honor Him. Jesus called believers "the salt of the earth" and "the light of the world" (Matt. 5:13-14). He said the good works of His followers should cause others to give glory to God.

God's people had the law of Moses, but some of them—the Pharisees, in particular—were concerned mostly with the appearance of being righteous. They tried hard to look righteous on the outside, but it was all an act. Jesus warned against hypocrites, people who pretend to be something they're not. When a person knows and loves Jesus, he or she has a changed heart that wants to honor Jesus.

As you teach preschoolers Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, emphasize that this moral teaching was not a list of requirements for being accepted by God. Rather, Jesus described what a person's life looks like when that person follows God and lives to honor Him. God's standards remind us that we rely on His grace through the gift of salvation in His Son.

# The BIBLE Story

## The Sermon on the Mount

*Matthew 5–7*

Crowds of people followed Jesus wherever He went. **One day, Jesus went up on a mountain. He sat down and began to teach about God’s kingdom. Jesus said:**

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.**

**Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.**

**Blessed are the humble, for the earth will be theirs.**

**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right, for they will be filled.**

**Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**

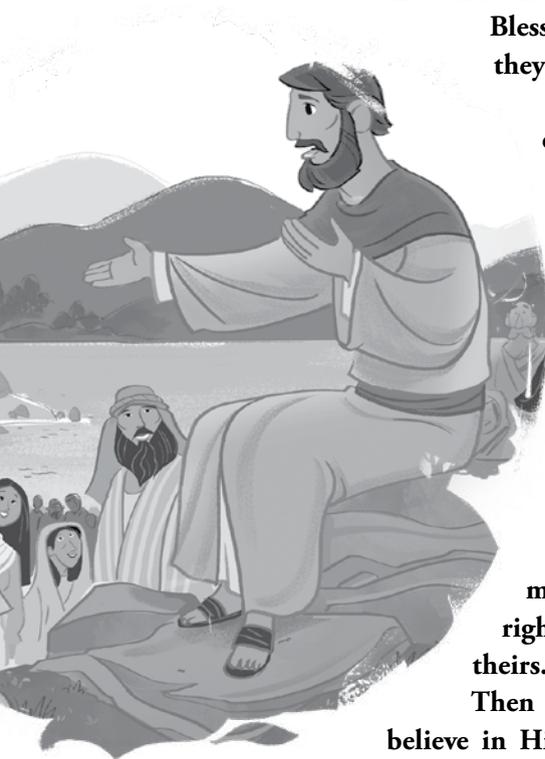
**Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called God’s children.**

**Blessed are those who are mistreated for doing what is right, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.”**

Then Jesus taught how people who believe in Him should live. Jesus said that believers are a light in a dark world. “Let your light shine so that others may see the good things you do. Those who see what you do will praise God,” Jesus said.

Then Jesus talked about God’s law. Jesus did not come to take



**away the law, but to obey it. He said that a person can't go to heaven just because he does the right things, like the religious leaders. Why a person does those things is just as important.**

Jesus said, "Love your enemies and pray for them. When you give to people who are poor, give in secret so others do not see you." Jesus also taught the people how to pray.

Jesus said, "Forgive others. Then God will forgive you too. If you do not forgive others, God will not forgive you."

Jesus said, "Do not collect treasures on earth. They can be destroyed or stolen. Collect treasures in heaven instead. Wherever your treasure is, that is where your heart will be too." Jesus taught that God provides for His people. He taught the people many things.

**When Jesus finished teaching, the crowds were amazed. Jesus did not teach like the other religious leaders; He taught like He was in charge, like He really knew what He was talking about.**

*Christ Connection: Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live, how they should treat one another, and how to love God. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and lead others to know Him.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Go outside:** If possible, lead children outside and sit on a grassy hill to tell the Bible story.
- **Listen closely:** Guide children to cup their hands around their ears as if listening closely every time they hear the phrase *Jesus said*.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** The Sermon on the Mount

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 5–7

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught people about God’s kingdom.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Welcome time

- “Just As I Am” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “Who Is on the Team?” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Guide preschoolers to circle who the baseball players are playing in the game based on their actions, despite what the people are wearing or where they are.

**SAY** • Good job deciding who was on the team! That was a little tricky because some people were wearing the uniform, but they weren’t on the field. Other people were on the field, but they weren’t playing. We can tell who the baseball players are by what they are doing. Jesus taught that people who follow Him will look and act differently than everyone else. Listen to the story to hear how people who believe in Jesus should live.

## LOW PREP

- Bibles
- classroom supplies

## Play out teaching

Invite children to take turns “teaching” the class. Each child may sit in your spot and use your Bible or other supplies

to play teacher. Join the rest of the class as a student and intervene as little as possible.

**SAY** • Thank you all for teaching us today! We can all learn from one another, though God has specially gifted some people to teach. The best teacher ever was Jesus! When Jesus taught people, everyone was amazed. We will hear what Jesus taught people in our Bible story today!

## Obey happily

Give children a fun command to obey. Encourage them to respond with “Yes, ma’am” or “Yes, sir” and obey quickly. Reward quick and happy obedience with a sticker.

**SAY** • When Jesus lived on earth, the religious leaders thought a person could go to heaven if they did all the right things. In today’s Bible story, Jesus said that *why* a person does the right thing is just as important as *doing* the right thing. Doing the right thing is hard, but doing the right thing for the right reason is even harder! Listen to today’s Bible story to hear how Jesus came to earth to do *all* the right things for us!

## LOW PREP

• stickers

Suggested  
commands:

- do five jumping jacks
- shake a friend’s hand
- play air guitar
- waddle like a penguin
- stand on one foot
- hug yourself
- act like a monkey
- jump ten times

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Invite preschoolers to smile and show their happiest face as they move to Bible study.

• countdown video  
(optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** The Sermon on the Mount

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 5–7

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught people about God’s kingdom.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Matthew 5 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • The Bible is God’s Word, and God’s Word is true.

Today’s Bible story comes from the Book of Matthew in the New Testament.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- “The Sermon on the Mount” video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • Wherever He went, **Jesus taught people about God’s kingdom.** He explained that life in God’s kingdom is different from life in this world. Many people who are sad because of wrong things in this life will be happy because of all the good things in God’s kingdom. Jesus taught how people should live, how they should treat one another, and how to love God. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and lead others to know Him.

## Practice the key passage

Place the key passage marker at John 14:26. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Create motions for preschoolers to use as they say the key passage. Use the key passage song video for inspiration.

**SAY** • Remembering everything you learn can be hard, but God’s Word is too important to forget! So Jesus didn’t just teach us about God, He gave us the Holy Spirit to help us remember. Let’s pray and ask the Holy Spirit to teach and remind us of God’s Word!

Sing the key passage song, “The Holy Spirit,” and the theme song, “Just As I Am.”

- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)” song
- “Just As I Am” song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • Our new big picture question asks, *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.* You probably already knew the answer from our Bible story! Jesus taught people how to live, how to treat one another, and how to love God.

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

**SAY** • Jesus taught people about God’s kingdom.

Missionaries do that too. They want people all over the world to know about Jesus. Let’s learn about Kesavan (KAY-sch-van). He is a missionary in Canada. Kesavan’s family is from a country in Asia.

He moved to Canada when he was a young boy.

Show the video. Pray, thanking God that Kesavan now follows Jesus.

- “Meet Kesavan” video

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE The Story



**SESSION TITLE:** The Sermon on the Mount

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 5–7

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught people about God’s kingdom.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## LOW PREP

### Sing the Beatitudes

Sing the words of the Beatitudes from the Preschool Bible Story or Matthew 5:3-10 to the tune of “Are You Sleeping?” If you are unfamiliar with the tune look it up online before the session. For Beatitudes where there are not enough syllables to complete the verse, add “Jesus said” at the end. For example,

“Blessed are, blessed are  
those who mourn, those who mourn.  
for they will be comforted, for they will be comforted,  
Jesus said, Jesus said.”

**SAY** • We sang the Beatitudes! These words Jesus taught are called the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes describe people who are happy in God’s kingdom. **Jesus taught people about God’s kingdom.** God’s kingdom is different from kingdoms on earth. God does not need us to be big or strong. Instead, He says we will be humble, merciful, pure in heart, and eager for righteousness when we follow Him. Those who follow God are blessed—or happy in Him.

### Shine a light

• flashlights, 1 per child

Give each child a flashlight and dim the lights. Play “I Spy” by shining your flashlight on an object as you describe it.

Guide children to point their flashlight at the object when they guess it. Once everyone has his or her light shining on the correct object, allow a child to take a turn spying. Continue playing as time allows. Finish by “spying” a Bible.

**SAY** • Jesus said that believers are a light in a dark world.

He taught how people who believe in Him should live to show people what God and His kingdom are like. *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.* We read Jesus’ teachings in the Bible. The more we read the Bible, the brighter our lives will shine for God’s glory!

## Learn about other cultures

Invite one or more people from different cultures to class. Ask guests to wear or bring traditional clothing, housewares, or other items unique to their culture. Invite them to share how people live in their communities and what some of the rules or laws are. Provide time for children to ask questions.

**SAY** • Let’s thank our guests for teaching us! If you want to belong to a community, you learn how people in that community live. People who trust in Jesus belong to a new kind of community called God’s kingdom. Jesus taught how people in God’s kingdom should live, how they should treat one another, and how to love God. *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.*

· guests with cultural items

Option: If guests are not available, check out books about other cultures from your local library and read to the children.

## Make a glow-in-the-dark earth

Cut a large circle out of black poster board. Draw the outlines of land with chalk to make the circle look like the earth. Pour glow paint onto a foam plate and invite

· black poster board  
· scissors (adult-use)  
· chalk  
· glow paint  
· foam plate  
· wipes for cleanup

children to dip a fingertip in the paint. Help children press their fingerprints onto the world. Wipe hands immediately. Allow the paint to dry under a bright light, and then dim the lights so children can see their artwork glow.

**SAY** • Jesus taught how people who believe in Him should live. He said that believers are a light in a dark world. “Let your light shine so that others may see the good things you do. Those who see what you do will praise God,” Jesus said. Our glow paint cannot shine unless it absorbs light from another source, and we cannot be lights in the world unless we follow Jesus. But if live in a way that honors God, then we can show people what God and His kingdom are like. ***What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.***



### Sort leaves

Print several copies of “Leaf Patterns” on different colors of paper. Cut apart the cards. Mix up the cards and set them on a table for preschoolers to sort into piles. Preschoolers may sort by color or type.

**SAY** • [*Hold up a maple leaf card.*] Maple trees grow in Canada. The maple leaf is even on the Canadian flag. Do you know what sweet food comes from maple trees? [*Allow responses.*] Maple syrup! We will be learning more about missions in Canada the next few weeks. God loves the people of Canada and wants them to be part of His kingdom. ***What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.*** Let’s pray for Christians in Canada, that God would help them tell the people around them about Jesus and His kingdom.

- “Leaf Patterns” printable
- colored paper
- scissors (adult use)

Option: Print a maple leaf card for each child to take home as a reminder to pray for Canada.

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Choose the quietest child to help serve snack. Talk about how Jesus said those who did not seek attention for themselves are blessed. **Jesus taught people about God's kingdom** and what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live, how they should treat one another, and how to love God. Thank your snack helper and praise God for him or her.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. Who taught people about God's kingdom? (*Jesus*)
2. Where did Jesus teach His sermon? (*on a mountain*)
3. What word did Jesus repeat at the beginning about people who follow Him? (*blessed or happy*)
4. Did Jesus promise good things for those people? (*yes*)
5. True or false: if you trust in Jesus, how you live doesn't matter. (*false*)
6. ***What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster

Tip: Be sensitive to children who may not want to help serve snack.

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)" song
- "Just As I Am" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers



Use Week of:

## Unit 23 • Session 2

# The Cost of Following Jesus

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Matthew 8; 16; Luke 9; 14

### STORY POINT:

Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.

### KEY PASSAGE:

John 14:26

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

**INTRODUCE THE STORY**  
(15–20 MINUTES)  
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**TEACH THE STORY**  
(10–15 MINUTES)  
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**EXPERIENCE THE STORY**  
(20–25 MINUTES)  
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Additional resources are available at [gospelproject.com](http://gospelproject.com).

For free training and session-by-session help, visit [MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject](http://MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject).

## LEADER Bible Study

The benefits of following Jesus are wonderful: justification from sin, lifelong sanctification, and adoption into the family of God. But following Jesus also comes at a price. People had waited so long for the promised Messiah to come into the world, so many were eager to follow Him. Yet as Jesus taught, He urged people to consider the cost of being His disciple.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus explained to one disciple that following Him might involve giving up worldly comforts. He told another disciple that following Him should be higher priority than anything else—even one's commitment to his parents. (See Matt. 8:18-22.) In Matthew 16 and Luke 9, Jesus told His disciples, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Jesus shared two examples in Luke 14 of people who must count the cost of doing something. If a person is building a tower, he must first calculate the cost. If he begins the project and is unable to complete it, onlookers will ridicule him. In a similar way, a king counts the cost of going to war before sending out his army. If he is not able to oppose the enemy, he doesn't foolishly send out a small group to fight a larger group. Instead, he seeks peace.

Many who wanted to follow Jesus changed their minds. Jesus even asked the twelve disciples if they wanted to turn away as well. Peter answered, "Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68).

Paul acknowledged the difficulty of following Jesus in 2 Corinthians 4 but kept his eyes on eternity: "For our momentary light affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable eternal weight of glory" (v. 17). As you teach, emphasize that following Jesus is not easy, but He is worth it.

# The BIBLE Story

## The Cost of Following Jesus

*Matthew 8; 16; Luke 9; 14*

**Many people wanted to follow Jesus.** Large crowds followed Him around. One man said, “Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go.” Jesus told the man, “Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lie down.”

Another disciple said, “Lord, I will follow You, but first let me go and bury my father.” Jesus replied, “Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead.”

**Jesus told the crowds that following Him would not be easy.** “Anyone who comes to Me must be willing to leave everything,” he said. “You must love Me most of all—more than your own life! Anyone who thinks life should be easy cannot follow Me,” Jesus said.

Jesus wanted the people to choose carefully. He told them a story: “If you wanted to build a tower, you would first sit down and see what you would need to make the tower. If you did not, you would build the foundation and could not finish. People would laugh at you.”

Then He told them another story: “If you were a king, you would not go to war against another king without thinking about if your army is great enough to win the war. If you don’t have enough men to



fight, you would send some men to ask for peace before the fighting even started.”

Jesus wanted people to think about the cost. “If you are not willing to give up everything you have, you cannot follow Me,” Jesus said.

Jesus said, “Whoever gives up his life for Me will find true life. What good is it to have everything you want in the world if you give up life with God forever?”

*Christ Connection: Following Jesus is not easy, but He is worth it. When we trust in Jesus, we give Him complete control of our lives. Jesus gave up His own life to rescue people from sin and give us life with God forever.*

## Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Move around the room:** Place props associated with the Bible story (foxes and birds, gravestone, building blocks, king's crown, heart) in different corners in the room. Move from corner to corner as you tell the parts of the story related to the props.
- **Use people figures and blocks:** Set up blocks to represent the building materials for the tower and people figures to represent the armies going to war. Shove them all aside when Jesus says to give up everything.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** The Cost of Following Jesus

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 8; 16; Luke 9; 14

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Welcome time

- “Just As I Am” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “Home” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Tip: Be sensitive to children who may not have a place to live.

Lead preschoolers to draw a line matching each creature with its home.

**SAY** • Good job finding the homes for all of these creatures! Having a place to call home is really nice. Sometimes people have to leave their homes for something more important. Do you know what is the most important thing ever? Following Jesus! Listen to today’s Bible story to hear more!

## LOW PREP

Tip: If you are unfamiliar with the song, listen to it online before the session.

## Sing the answer

Teach children the first verse of “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus.” Then ask, “What if we have to move far away?” Guide children to answer by singing the verse. Pose another question like “Do you have to grow up first?” Shout “no!” and sing again. Continue asking questions based on possible excuses and singing the hymn in response. Pray for God to

help the preschoolers grow to follow Jesus decisively.

**SAY** • Deciding to follow Jesus is an important choice. It's not easy! But it is the best decision you could ever make. This song helps me remember not to turn back from following Jesus when life gets hard. I pray God will help you follow Jesus no matter what too!

## Teach cost

Provide play money and allow children to “shop” for toys and other classroom items. Assign a basic cost to each item as a child brings it to you, such as “That book will cost you five bills” or “Those markers will cost you ten coins.” Do not worry about actual values; just help the children count each piece of money as they give it to you. As children bring you another item, say “That will cost everything you have! Is that worth it to you?”

**SAY** • A *cost* is how much you have to give up, like money, to get something you want or need. Was it hard when you had to give up all of your money to get something you wanted? That's a harder choice to make! Today we will hear about something Jesus said would cost everything but would be worth it. He wanted people to think about the cost and choose carefully. Listen to the Bible story to find out what Jesus taught.

- play money
- toys and classroom items

Tip: Remind children they are playing pretend and “purchased” items will stay in the classroom after play.

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Challenge children to follow you on a difficult path to Bible study.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** The Cost of Following Jesus

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 8; 16; Luke 9; 14

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Luke 14 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • Jesus always spoke God's words, so we know His teaching is true. I'm really glad people wrote down God's true words in the Bible! Today we are hearing a story from the Bible Books of Matthew and Luke.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- "The Cost of Following Jesus" video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • Many people wanted to follow Jesus because they thought He would make their life easier. **Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.** In fact, it can be really hard. When we trust in Jesus, we give Him complete control of our lives. He is worth it because He gives us the best gift ever—Himself! Jesus gave up His own life to rescue people from sin and give us life with God forever!

## Practice the key passage

Place the key passage marker at John 14:26. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Challenge any willing preschooler to say the key passage from memory, promising to teach and remind him as much as necessary. Prompt him with words or using the motions you created last week. Praise any attempts and encourage other children to try.

**SAY** • Memorizing Scripture is hard, but it is worth it! **Jesus taught that following Him is not easy**, but He is worth it. And when we trust in Jesus, He gives us the Holy Spirit to teach and remind us of His words!

Sing the key passage song, “The Holy Spirit,” and the theme song, “Just As I Am.”

- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)” song
- “Just As I Am” song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • Our big picture question asks, *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.* Even though following Jesus is not easy, it is worth it because He will get to be with God in His kingdom. That is better than anything we may have to give up now.

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

**SAY** • Let’s meet the Balasinghams, a missionary family from Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Show the “Balasingham Family Photo.” Point to each family member as you introduce him or her. Ask children to repeat the names after you. Ask them to raise their hands if they are the same age as one of the children. Pray for the family.

- “Balasingham Family Photo” printable

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** The Cost of Following Jesus

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 8; 16; Luke 9; 14

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## LOW PREP

### Play “Mirror, Mirror”

Form pairs. Lead pairs to stand facing each other an arm’s distance apart. Designate one child to be the *leader* and the other child to be the *mirror*. Explain that the *mirror* must copy the movements of the *leader* as if the *leader* is looking in a mirror. Play for a given amount of time then switch roles and play again. Reassign partners and continue playing as time allows or as interest holds.

**SAY** • Was it easy or hard to copy the leader’s motions when you were the mirror? People who follow Jesus look and act more and more like Jesus the longer they follow Him, but **Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.** Trusting Jesus means giving Him complete control of our lives. Jesus gave up His own life to rescue people from sin and give us life with God. Following Jesus is not easy, but He is worth it.

### Choose your preference

Print the “Would You Rather?” printable. Hold up a pair, asking preschoolers which of the two options they would choose. Encourage children to pause and think about their choice before they answer. Then invite children to raise their hands as you name each choice and tally up the votes on a dry erase board. Continue with each pair until the

- “Would You Rather?” printable
- dry erase board
- dry erase marker

world and Jesus. Invite children to think about choosing between the world and Jesus, but do not vote on it.

**SAY** • Sometimes we have to give up even good things so we can get something better. Jesus is always the better choice, even if we have to give up the whole world.

**Jesus taught that following Him is not easy**, but He is worth it. He gives us life with God forever! When we trust in Jesus, we give Him complete control of our lives. Jesus gave up His own life to rescue people from sin.

## Play musical foxes and birds

Before the session, cut large circles from brown and black construction paper. Cut enough circles for each child to have one. Form two groups. Assign one group to be *birds* and the other group to be *foxes*. Explain that the brown circles are *birds' nests* and the black circles are *foxes' dens*. Spread out the circles on the floor, using one less *bird's nest* than the number of *birds* and one less *fox's den* than the number of *foxes*. Tell preschoolers that when the music begins, the *birds* must flap their wings and the *foxes* must crawl on the floor. When the music stops, each *bird* must find a *nest* and each *fox* must find a *den*. The *bird* and *fox* that cannot find a home are out but may select a *bird's nest* and *fox's den* to remove for the next round. Play until only one *fox* and one *bird* remains.

**SAY** • One man told Jesus he would follow Him wherever He went. Jesus told the man, "Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lie down." **Jesus taught that following Him is not easy**, but He is worth it. Whoever gives Jesus complete control of his life will find true life.

- brown construction paper
- black construction paper
- scissors (adult use)
- "The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)" song (optional)
- "Just As I Am" song (optional)

Tip: For younger preschoolers, give each child a brown or black scrap of paper or dot sticker to help them remember if they are a bird or fox.

- Allergy Alert
- small foam blocks
- non-menthol shaving cream
- wipes for cleanup

## Build a tower with shaving cream

Post an allergy alert. Set out small foam blocks on a table. Squirt a mound of non-menthol shaving cream in front of each child. Invite preschoolers to build a tower together using the shaving cream to hold the blocks together. Ask children about their building plans as they work.

**SAY** • Jesus said builders plan what they need before they start building. What if someone built the floors and walls of a house, but then didn't have a roof to put on? That would be silly! Jesus wants people to think about what it takes to follow Him too. When we trust in Jesus, we give Him complete control of our lives. **Jesus taught that following Him is not easy,** but He is worth it. Jesus gave up His life to rescue people from sin and give us life with God forever!



## Play out visiting a beach and a zoo

- beach towels
- sunglasses
- sand toys
- zoo animal toys
- "Balasingham Family Photo" printable

Set up one side of the room to represent a beach with beach towels, sunglasses, and sand toys. Set up the other side of the room to represent a zoo by displaying animal toys. Encourage preschoolers to use their imaginations and pretend to visit the beach, a zoo, or both. Show preschoolers the "Balasingham Family Photo."

**SAY** • Remember the Balasingham family we are learning about? They are missionaries in Canada. The Balasingham's two favorite places to visit are the beach and the zoo. They love to be outside and visit special places with their family. Where do you like to visit with your family? *[Allow responses.]* God is using this family in Canada to help people know about Him. Let's pray that God will help the Balasingham family continue to share the good news about Jesus.

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Offer preschoolers two options for snack, explaining that they cannot change their mind later. Advise preschoolers to think about which snack they want and choose carefully. Talk about how Jesus wanted people to think about the cost of following Him. Following Jesus is not easy, but He is worth it.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. Did many people want to follow Jesus? (*yes*)
2. Did Jesus teach that following Him is easy? (*No, Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.*)
3. Why would Jesus teach that following Him is not easy? (*He wanted people to think and choose carefully.*)
4. Is following Jesus worth it? (*yes, always*)
5. What did Jesus promise to those who give up everything to follow Him? (*life with God forever*)
6. ***What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- second snack option (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)" song
- "Just As I Am" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers



Use Week of:

## Unit 23 • Session 3

# Jesus Taught About Prayer

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Luke 11; 18

### STORY POINT:

Jesus taught people how to pray.

### KEY PASSAGE:

John 14:26

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

#### INTRODUCE THE STORY

(15–20 MINUTES)

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#### TEACH THE STORY

(10–15 MINUTES)

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#### EXPERIENCE THE STORY

(20–25 MINUTES)

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## LEADER Bible Study

Prayer is personal communication with God. Many people aren't sure how to pray or feel uncomfortable praying. To pray effectively, then, we must be taught how to pray. This is why Jesus' disciples asked Him to teach them to pray.

Jesus began with the Lord's Prayer, not to establish the words we should use but to show how we should pray and what we should pray about. Through prayer, we demonstrate our dependence on and faith in the Lord. We should approach God as a Father and pray for His kingdom first and then for ourselves and others.

Then Jesus told a story about a man who went to his friend in the middle of the night to ask for food for a visitor. The friend did not want to be bothered but because the man did not give up, the friend finally gave him what he needed. God is not a sleepy neighbor. If a grumpy friend will reward persistence, how much more so will God! He cares about His children and is happy to give us what we need when we ask.

In a similar way, a human father who loves his child would not give him a snake if he asked for a fish. Will God give us everything we ask for? No, but when we are persistent with our prayers, we can trust Him to answer according to His glory and our good.

Jesus used another parable in Luke 18: A judge was unwilling to grant a widow's plea for justice, but the woman did not give up. So the judge gave her justice. We should not give up praying if we have not received an answer from God. God is not like a wicked judge. When we pray consistently, God will give us justice and He will act quickly.

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Taught About Prayer

*Luke 11; 18*

One of Jesus' disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray." So Jesus told the disciples, "Pray like this: Father, Your name be honored as holy. We pray that Your kingdom will come. Give us the food we need every day. Forgive our sins like we forgive people who have done wrong to us. And do not let us be tempted."

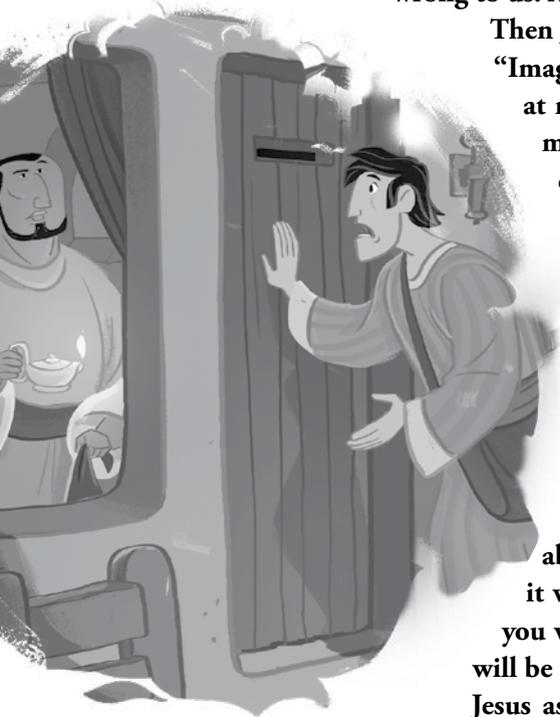
Then Jesus told the disciples a story.

"Imagine one of you goes to a friend at midnight and says, 'Friend, let me borrow some bread. A friend came to visit me, and I don't have anything to offer him.' The friend shouts, 'Go away! My family is in bed. I do not want to get up.' Even though the man does not want to help his friend, he will get up and give his friend bread because he asked boldly."

Jesus told this story to teach about prayer. He said, "Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you."

Jesus asked, "When a son asks for a fish, does his father give him a snake instead? Or if the son asks for an egg, does the father give him a scorpion?" Earthly fathers know how to give good gifts to their children. God is an even greater Father! He gives His Spirit to those who ask.

Jesus told another story to teach the disciples to pray without giving



up. “In a town was a judge who did not care about God or people. A widow went to the judge again and again, asking him to protect her from being mistreated. The judge did not want to help, but he said, ‘I will give this widow what she wants so she will stop bothering me.’”

Jesus pointed out that the unjust judge did what was right because the widow did not give up. Jesus asked, “When people cry out to God day and night, will He ignore them? No! He will quickly make things right.” Jesus wanted His followers to have faith that doesn’t give up.

*Christ Connection: Jesus taught us to pray. Because of Jesus, we can pray and ask God for everything we need. God is good and loving, and we can trust Him to care for us and to do what is right.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Fold your hands:** Invite the children to fold their hands and bow their heads every time you say the words *pray* or *prayer*.
- **Use sock or paper bag puppets:** Make sock or paper bag puppets to use during Jesus’ stories about the friend asking for help at midnight and the widow begging the judge to protect her.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Taught About Prayer

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Luke 11; 18

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught people how to pray.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Welcome time

- "Just As I Am" song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church's security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- "Good Gifts" activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Help children study the pattern in each row and circle what comes next in each one.

**SAY** • Good job deciding which answer was best! You don't normally see snakes and fish together or scorpions and eggs. But in our Bible story today, Jesus talked about these things to teach something else about God and His kingdom. *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.* Listen closely to find out what we can learn about God from these pairs!

## LOW PREP

## Play out day and night

Ask preschoolers what they do when they wake up in the morning and invite them to play it out. Pretend to brush teeth, get dressed, eat breakfast, and so forth. Continue with other segments of the day, finishing with bedtime routines.

Pretend to go to sleep, then awake children by knocking on a door or table.

**SAY** • Has anyone ever had a friend come to visit in the middle of the night? That would be strange. Nighttime is for sleeping! People don't usually wake up their friends in the middle of the night unless they really need help. But a good friend is willing to help, even at night. Jesus taught that we can ask God for help in that way. He is always willing to help us! Listen to today's Bible story to find out more.

## Sort foods

Set out toy foods and toy reptiles or insects on the floor. Provide a gift box on one side of the pile and a plastic bin on the other side. Tell preschoolers to pretend the items are real. Instruct preschoolers to sort the foods into the gift box and the reptiles or insects into the plastic bin.

- toy foods
- toy reptiles or insects
- gift box
- plastic bin

**SAY** • Yummy foods are good gifts, but scary creatures are not! I love to eat fish, but I do not eat snakes. If I asked my dad for fish for supper and he gave me a snake, that would be mean! But he wouldn't do that because he loves me. God loves us even more! He gives us good things when we ask for them.

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Invite children to knock on a door before going to Bible study or prompt children to ask "May I go to Bible study?" before sending them.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Taught About Prayer

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Luke 11; 18

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught people how to pray.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Luke 11 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • The Bible is God’s word to us, but it also tells us how to talk to God! Today’s true Bible story is from the Book of Luke in the New Testament part of the Bible.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- “Jesus Taught About Prayer” video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • **Jesus taught people how to pray.** If Jesus had not told us to, it would not seem right to keep asking God for the same thing over and over again. But that’s what Jesus taught through His stories! Jesus wanted His followers to have faith that doesn’t give up. Because of Jesus, we can pray and ask God for everything we need. God is good and loving, and we can trust Him to care for us and to do what is right.

## Practice the key passage

Place the key passage marker at John 14:26. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Invite children to repeat after you as you say the verse in a silly voice. Tell them, “say it like this,” and continue with various voices as desired.

- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)” song
- “Just As I Am” song

**SAY** • Jesus told the disciples how to pray and gave them words to use when talking to God. Repeating after a teacher is a great way to remember, but even if you forget our game, the Holy Spirit will teach you and remind you of Jesus’ words!

Sing the key passage song, “The Holy Spirit,” and the theme song, “Just As I Am.”

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • The reason that **Jesus taught people how to pray** is so we would learn to trust God and seek His kingdom. *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.* God is good and loving, and we can trust Him to care for us and to do what is right.

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

**SAY** • **Jesus taught people how to pray** so they would understand that they can talk to God about anything! When we pray, we can ask God to help missionaries. Let’s listen for some ways that we can pray for Kesavan and his work in Canada.

- “How to Pray for Kesavan” video

Show the video, pausing the video as directed for a brief prayer.

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Taught About Prayer

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Luke 11; 18

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught people how to pray.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## LOW PREP

### Sing a song

Sing the following lyrics to the tune of “Mulberry Bush.” If you are unfamiliar with the tune, look it up online before the session.

“Ask, and it will be given to you.

Given to you, given to you.

Ask, and it will be given to you.

God will answer your prayers!

“Seek after God, and you will find.

You will find, you will find.

Seek after God, and you will find

God will answer your prayers!

“Knock, and the door will be opened to you.

Opened to you, opened to you.

Knock, and the door will be opened to you.

God will answer your prayers!”

**SAY** • Jesus said, “Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you.” **Jesus taught people how to pray.** Because of Jesus, we can pray and ask God for everything we need. God is good and loving, and we can trust Him to care for us and to do what is right.

## Play catch

Form a circle. Toss a ball to a child and encourage her to catch it. Then invite her to toss it to another child to catch. Praise all attempts and encourage children to keep trying even if they don't catch the ball. Emphasize not giving up.

**SAY** • Good job practicing catch without giving up! **Jesus taught people how to pray** without giving up. He said that even people who do not care about God or others will respond when someone keeps asking. But God is good and loving, so we can trust Him to care for us and to do what is right! Because of Jesus, we can pray and ask God for everything we need.

**LOW  
PREP**

• foam ball

## Make a prayer chart

Draw lines to divide a large piece of paper into quadrants. In the first quadrant, write a large *A* as you explain that the first thing we do in prayer is adore God. Ask children what is awesome about God (He is holy, He is good, and so forth) and write down their answers under the *A*. In the second quadrant, write a large *C* as you explain that the next thing we do in prayer is confess sin. Ask children if they've made any wrong choices they need to ask forgiveness for and write down their answers under the *C*. Next, write a *T* for thanksgiving and ask children what they would like to thank God for. Finally, write a *S* for seek. Remind children that if we seek our needs from God, we will find what we need. Ask children what they need God's help with and write down their answers. Then pray, modeling gospel-centered prayer. Invite preschoolers to pray as desired.

**SAY** • **Jesus taught people how to pray.** He taught us to adore God, confess sin, thank God, and seek what we need from Him. Because of Jesus, we can pray and

**LOW  
PREP**

• large piece of paper  
• marker

Tip: While talking about confession, redirect children who point out other's sin back to themselves. Offer examples of ways preschoolers may be tempted to sin. Confess your own sins in an age-appropriate way to model confession for preschoolers.

ask God for everything we need. God is good and loving, and we can trust Him to care for us and to do what is right. We may not always get the answer we want, but God always gives us what we need.

## Open locks

- lock-and-latch boards
- locks and keys

Provide lock-and-latch boards or a variety of locks and keys for children to practice opening. For older preschoolers, hold onto the keys or hide them at first. Encourage children to ask for the keys or “seek” them before attempting the locks. Give the keys quickly when requested.

**SAY** • Those locks were tricky to open! Sometimes we think prayer is tricky. We worry about using the right words or if God will answer. But **Jesus taught people how to pray.** He said, “Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you.” Because of Jesus, we can pray and ask God for everything we need. God is good and loving, and we can trust Him to care for us and to do what is right.



## Trace letters

- “God in Tamil” printable
- crayons
- wax or tracing paper

Give each preschooler a copy of “God in Tamil.” Show a preschooler how to lay a sheet of wax paper over the Tamil letters and trace the letters with a crayon.

**SAY** • These letters look different to us because they are in another language. Kesavan and Viji were born in a country called Sri Lanka. One of the languages spoken in there is Tamil (ta-mel). These letters spell God in Tamil. When Kesavan moved to Canada as a young boy, he learned English. Now he can tell people about Jesus in two languages!

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve fish-shaped crackers for snack. Talk about how fish are yummy, but snakes are scary! Even though we are not perfect, we know how to give good gifts when people ask. God is perfectly good and loving, so we can trust Him to give us good gifts when we ask. **Jesus taught people how to pray.** Because of Jesus, we can pray and ask God for everything we need.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What did the disciples ask Jesus to teach them?  
(**Jesus taught people how to pray.**)
2. Can we call God our Father? (*yes*)
3. Is it OK to ask God for what we need? (*Yes, we can ask God for everything we need.*)
4. Will God ignore us or give bad gifts? (*No, He will always do what is right.*)
5. ***What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- fish-shaped crackers (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)" song
- "Just As I Am" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Use Week of:

## Unit 23 • Session 4

# Jesus Taught About Possessions

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Luke 12

### STORY POINT:

Jesus taught people not to worry.

### KEY PASSAGE:

John 14:26

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.



**INTRODUCE THE STORY**  
(15–20 MINUTES)  
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**TEACH THE STORY**  
(10–15 MINUTES)  
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**EXPERIENCE THE STORY**  
(20–25 MINUTES)  
**PAGE 100**



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For free training and session-by-session help, visit [MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject](http://MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject).

## LEADER Bible Study

A very large crowd—thousands of people (Luke 12:1)—had gathered around Jesus as He taught His disciples. The people recognized Him as a rabbi (teacher), so it was not unusual that someone called out, asking Jesus to settle a financial dispute. But Jesus knew the man was motivated by greed, and He told a story.

In Jesus' parable, a rich man had so many crops that he decided to tear down his barns and build bigger ones. That way, he could store everything he had and take it easy. But the man was foolish and short-sighted. He didn't consider he could die that very night. The saying is true: "You can't take it with you." Rather than storing up treasures for ourselves, we should live to glorify God and live generously, using what we have on earth to make an eternal impact.

Jesus also addressed worry with His disciples. Jesus' followers should not be anxious about their basic needs. God takes care of the birds and the flowers. People are God's most valuable and beloved creatures; we can trust Him to provide for us!

Jesus contrasted the way the unsaved Gentiles lived with how believers should live. Unbelievers seek wealth and possessions as if that was the main goal in life. They act like God does not care about their needs. But our focus should not be on ourselves, our wealth and our possessions; we should focus on God's kingdom. We do not need to worry. God will provide. He is glad to give us what we need!

God gives us good gifts on earth. We can steward these gifts for His glory. Earthly treasures will not last forever. When Jesus is our greatest treasure, we can live generously and trust God to provide what we need.

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Taught About Possessions

*Luke 12*

A very large crowd came to learn from Jesus. Someone in the crowd said, “Teacher, tell my brother to share our father’s money and possessions with me.”

Jesus said, “Do not be greedy. **Life is not about what you own.**”

Then Jesus told the people a story: “A rich man owned land that produced many crops. He did not have anywhere to put them all, so he said, ‘I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then, I will have so much stored up that I can stop working and relax.’ But God told the man, ‘You are a fool! You could die tonight, and then what good is everything you have?’” Jesus told this story to warn people who store up treasures on earth and are not generous toward God.

**Then Jesus told His disciples, “Do not worry about what you will eat or what you will wear. Do birds plant grain or collect it? No. Yet God feeds them. Aren’t you worth more than birds?”**

Jesus also said, “Think about the wildflowers. Do they work or make clothing? No. Yet they are better dressed than a great and rich king in his fancy clothes. If that is how God takes care of grass—which grows today and is cut down tomorrow—how



much more will He do for you?"

Jesus told His disciples to not worry. "Seek God's kingdom," He said. "God will give you what you need." God is happy to give His children the kingdom.

Finally Jesus said, "Sell what you have and give to the poor. A thief can take away treasure on earth, but treasure stored in heaven lasts forever. Where your treasure is, that is where your heart is too."

*Christ Connection: Jesus is our greatest treasure. Jesus came down from heaven to live on earth with nothing. He obeyed God to set up His kingdom. We can give cheerfully and trust God to give us everything we need.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Show pictures:** Find pictures of crops, barns, birds, flowers, treasure, and any other scenes from the Bible story online. Print the pictures and show them at the appropriate moments in the Bible story.
- **Look outside:** Go outside or look through a window as you tell the Bible story. If visible, motion towards birds and flowers as you talk about them.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Taught About Possessions

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Luke 12

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught people not to worry.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Welcome time

- “Just As I Am” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “That’s Silly!” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Help preschoolers cross out the things that do not belong in the picture.

**SAY** • I’ve never seen a bird farming or a flower sewing! But how do the birds have enough to eat if they don’t grow food? And who dressed the flowers so beautifully? *[Allow responses.]* God takes care of them! And God takes care of us too. We don’t need to worry about having what we need. Listen to today’s Bible story to learn more.

## LOW PREP

• small Bible

Tip: Remind children to be gentle and respectful as they take the Bible.

## Guess who has it

Form a circle on the floor. Choose a child to sit in the middle with a small Bible behind her back. The child in the middle will close her eyes, and you will choose another child to silently take the Bible and return to his spot in the circle. Once the Bible is hidden, tell the child in the middle

to open her eyes and guess who has the Bible. Reveal the child with the Bible after three guesses and play again.

**SAY** • That was a fun game, but it would be sad if someone really did take my Bible. Can anyone take away God's words that I have memorized though? No! People might take things that are special to us on earth, but there is a kind of treasure that no one can take away from us. Jesus taught us to seek that treasure and not worry about other stuff. Listen to our Bible story today to learn what that treasure is!

## Assemble care packages

Provide index cards, gallon-sized ziplock bags, basic necessity items, and small Bibles. Invite children to decorate an index card as you explain that children will assemble care packages for people who do not have everything they need. Form an assembly line. Guide children to add one of each item to a ziplock bag. Direct children to put their decorated index cards in a bag to take home. Contact parents during the week with suggestions of how to give away the care packages.

**SAY** • God has given us everything we need, so we can share with people who don't have enough. Jesus told His disciples to give to the poor. When we give, we show people that God cares for them!

- index cards
- gallon-sized ziplock bags
- crayons or markers
- stickers
- basic necessity items (travel-sized toiletries, new socks, pop-top canned food, plastic utensils, tissues, wet wipes, and so forth)
- small Bibles to give away

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Invite preschoolers to flap their arms like flying birds as they move to Bible study.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Taught About Possessions

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Luke 12

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught people not to worry.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Luke 12 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • Did Jesus always speak God's words? Yes! People like Luke wrote down Jesus' words in the Bible, so we can still read God's true word today.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- "Jesus Taught About Possessions" video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • A lot of people worry about money. After all, we need to buy things like food and clothing. But **Jesus taught people not to worry**. He explained that God knows what we need and He loves us. We can give cheerfully and trust God to give us everything we need. Giving helps our hearts love God. Jesus is our greatest treasure. Jesus came from heaven to live on earth with nothing. He obeyed God to set up His kingdom. We can obey to build God's kingdom too!

Tip: Be sensitive to children who are truly in need. Make sure families know how to get help at your church.

## Practice the key passage

Before the session, place the key passage marker at John 14:26, hide the Bible in the room, and create a treasure map to find it. Surprise children with the map instead of the Bible. Guide the children on a treasure hunt. When they find the Bible, invite a child to open it to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud.

**SAY** • The Bible is a treasure because it tells us about our greatest treasure—Jesus! God gives the Holy Spirit to remind us of what Jesus taught about His kingdom.

Sing the key passage song, “The Holy Spirit,” and the theme song, “Just As I Am.”

- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)” song
- “Just As I Am” song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • Jesus taught that giving to the poor is one way that we store up treasure in heaven. **Jesus taught people not to worry.** Money isn’t just for buying what we need. More importantly, money is for helping build God’s kingdom on earth. *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.*

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

**SAY** • We’ve been learning about the Balasinghams, a missionary family in Canada. Let me tell you more about their story and how they started a church. Jesus is teaching them not to worry about the things they need. He takes care of them.

Ask a volunteer to hold the family picture while you read the short story.

- “More About the Balasinghams” printable

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Taught About Possessions

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Luke 12

**STORY POINT:** Jesus taught people not to worry.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## LOW PREP

• walking rope  
(optional)

### Go on a nature walk

Lead children on a walk outside looking for flowers and birds. Pause to admire the beauty of the flowers and remind children what Jesus said about them. Watch what the birds do and remind preschoolers that God provides for them. Praise God for the reminders of Himself in His creation.

**SAY • Jesus taught people not to worry.** He reminded people how God cares for His creation—that includes us! We can give cheerfully and trust God to give us everything we need. He already gave us everything we need to trust Him! God shows His love for us through Jesus, His Word, and creation. Thank you, God!

### Pass the treasure

Post an allergy alert. Give each child a cup. Form a circle. Pour several chocolate gold coins in one child's cup. When music plays, he will pour his coins into his neighbor's cup. Then she will pour her coins into the next child's cup. Preschoolers will continue passing the treasure until the music stops. The child with coins in his cup when the music stops will choose a child and pour all his coins in her cup. Continue play as desired and allow each child to have a coin when finished.

- Allergy Alert
- cups
- chocolate gold coins
- "The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)" song (optional)
- "Just As I Am" song (optional)

**SAY** • Thanks for sharing the treasure! Giving up something you really want to keep is hard. Jesus told a story about a rich man who didn't want to share. Only treasure in heaven lasts forever. Jesus is our greatest treasure. Jesus came down from heaven to live on earth with nothing. He obeyed God to set up His kingdom. ***What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.*** We can give cheerfully and trust God to give us everything we need.

## Decorate envelopes

Provide art supplies and three envelopes for each child. On the first envelope, print *1. GIVE* and explain that the first thing we do with the money God gives us is give part of it back to God. On the second envelope, print *2. SAVE* and explain that the next thing to do with our money is save some of it for important expenses. On the third envelope, print *3. SPEND* and explain that the last thing we do with our money is spend it on what we need or want. Invite children to decorate their envelopes with pictures to help them remember what each envelope is for. Give each child several coins to practice with. Contact parents during the week, suggesting they help their child sort any money he or she receives into the envelopes as a first lesson in budgeting.

**SAY** • Jesus saw how much people worried about what they had or didn't have. **Jesus taught people not to worry.** He said, "Seek God's kingdom. God will give you what you need." Jesus told His disciples to give to the poor, and they will store up treasure in heaven. We can give cheerfully and trust God to give us everything we need!

- envelopes, 3 per child
- markers or crayons
- stickers
- other art supplies
- coins, at least 3 per child

Tip: Write each word on an index card. Challenge older preschoolers to write the words on their envelopes on their own.

## Lace flowers

- “Flower Lacing Cards” printable
- heavyweight colored paper
- scissors (adult-use)
- hole punch
- shoelaces

Print the “Flower Lacing Cards” on heavyweight colored paper. Cut out the flowers and punch holes where indicated. Show children how to thread a shoelace down through one hole and back up the next hole. Explain that lacing is similar to how people sew clothing. Encourage preschoolers to practice lacing around or across each flower shape.

**SAY** • Practicing sewing on flowers was fun! But no one sews clothing for real flowers. God gives flowers their beautiful petals. Jesus said, “If that is how God takes care of grass—which grows today and is cut down tomorrow—how much more will He do for you?”

**Jesus taught people not to worry.** God loves and cares for people more than flowers! We can trust God to give us everything we need.



## Talk about needs

- bag or small suitcase
- bottled water
- item to represent food, such as a can, box, or individually wrapped item
- item to represent shelter, such as a toy house or photo
- item to represent clothing
- item to represent money, such as coins or play money
- Bible

Pack a bag with a few items to represent needs: water, food, clothes, shelter, money, Bible, and so forth. Form a circle on the floor. Take items out of the bag one at a time. Ask preschoolers to tell why each item is a need. Pass the items around the circle, then set them in front of you. Show the Bible last. Remind preschoolers all people need Jesus. The Bible teaches us about Jesus.

**SAY** • **Jesus taught people not to worry** about the things we need. When we pray and give an offering at church, God uses us to help missionaries. The money we give helps missionaries, like the Balasinghams, have clean water, food, a place to live, clothes, and money so that they can tell people about Jesus. We can tell people about Jesus too!

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve granola for snack. Talk about how granola is made from grains that farmers grew and collected. Instead of keeping it all for themselves, the farmers sold most of their grain. Then our church was able to buy this granola because people gave some of their money to church. **Jesus taught people not to worry.** We can give cheerfully and trust God to give us everything we need. Pray again, thanking God for all the people who worked to produce the snack.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What were the people who followed Jesus worrying about? (*Money, possessions, food, clothing*)
2. Who feeds the birds? (*God*)
3. Who dresses the flowers? (*God*)
4. Who can we ask to give us all we need? (*God*)
5. Where does treasure last forever? (*in heaven*)
6. ***What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- granola (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)" song
- "Just As I Am" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers



Use Week of:

Unit 23 • Session 5

## The Good Shepherd

**BIBLE PASSAGE:**

John 10

**STORY POINT:**

Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

**INTRODUCE THE STORY**  
(15–20 MINUTES)  
**PAGE 108**



**TEACH THE STORY**  
(10–15 MINUTES)  
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**EXPERIENCE THE STORY**  
(20–25 MINUTES)  
**PAGE 112**



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## LEADER Bible Study

Jesus' teaching caused division among the Jews. They argued about who He was and where He had come from. Had He really come from God? Was He crazy or demon-possessed? In John 10, Jesus taught about Himself by using a comparison that is found throughout the Old Testament: the Lord as the Shepherd of His people.

In Bible times, shepherding was a common occupation. Leaders of nations—even non-Israelite nations—would refer to themselves as shepherds of the people. A good shepherd would guide, provide for, and protect his people. Yet Old Testament prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel criticized Israel's leaders for failing to shepherd God's people well. The Israelites were like sheep—helpless and wandering—and they longed for a truly good shepherd.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who provides abundant life for His sheep. A shepherd would gather his sheep at night and form a pen to keep the sheep in and to keep wild animals and thieves out. The shepherd would lay across the opening. Like a shepherd provides safety for his sheep, Jesus provides salvation and eternal life.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep. A shepherd protects his sheep from wolves and other wild animals, even at risk to his own life. Jesus gave up His life on the cross to rescue sinners from sin and death.

Finally, Jesus is the Good Shepherd who knows His sheep. Even when two or more flocks gathered in a pen, a shepherd could call for his sheep and they would respond to the sound of his voice. Jesus knows His sheep personally.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, came to do His Father's plan: to die on the cross and rise again so that we might be saved. We can live sacrificially as we point others to the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

# The BIBLE Story

## The Good Shepherd

*John 10*

Jesus told a story to the Jewish leaders: “If a person climbs into a sheep pen, he is not the shepherd; he is a thief,” Jesus said. “A shepherd comes in through the gate and calls his sheep by name.

When the sheep hear the shepherd’s voice, they follow him. If the sheep hear a stranger’s voice, they run away.”

The people did not understand Jesus’ story. God’s people are like sheep, and Jesus is the Shepherd.

Jesus said, “I am the gate for the sheep. They come in through Me and are saved.”

Jesus was saying that He is the way to true life. Jesus warned, “A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.” Jesus was talking about the devil, who does not want people to follow God. Jesus said, “I have come so that they may have life—extraordinary life.”

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who gives up His life for the sheep. He said, “I know My sheep, and My sheep know Me.” Like a shepherd risks his own life to protect his sheep from wolves, Jesus was willing to die for His people. Jesus came to do His Father’s plan, and He was going to die on the cross and rise again.

The Jews started to argue. Many said, “Do not listen to Him; He’s



crazy.” Others said, “He does not sound crazy. Can a crazy man give sight to the blind?”

The Jewish leaders asked Jesus, “Are You really the Messiah? Just tell us.”

Jesus answered, “I did tell you, but you do not believe. My miracles prove who I am. You are not My sheep.” **Jesus** reminded them that **He is the Good Shepherd. “My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me. I give them life forever. No one will take them out of My hand. The Father and I are one.”**

*Christ Connection: Jesus is the Good Shepherd. God sent Him to save sinners. Jesus gave up His life so His people could be forgiven and have life with God forever. Those who trust in Jesus are His sheep. They listen to Him, follow Him, and obey Him.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Enter the sheep gate:** Set up the Bible story area with a “sheep pen” with a gate. Use baby gates as an option. Lead children to enter the sheep pen to hear the Bible story.
- **Dress like a shepherd:** Wear Bible-times clothing and hold a shepherd’s staff as you tell the Bible story.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** The Good Shepherd

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** John 10

**STORY POINT:** Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Welcome time

- “Just As I Am” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “Follow the Shepherd” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Help preschoolers complete the maze to get the sheep safely to the pen.

**SAY** • Good job helping the sheep get to the pen! Sheep have to follow the shepherd on the right path to stay safe. Jesus taught that our lives are like that too. He saves us when we follow Him! Listen to our Bible story to learn how **Jesus is the Good Shepherd.**

## LOW PREP

## Chant actions

Guide children to sit and pat their knees in rhythm while chanting with you:

“We’re going to the sheep pen,  
We’re gonna be safe there.  
Uh oh! A thief! Run away!”

On the last line, point and act scared, then guide preschoolers to pat their knees frantically as if running away.

After a moment, return to a normal rhythm and repeat, exchanging the word *thief* for *wolf* or other dangers. Finish by replacing the last line with: “Finally! The gate! Come on in.”

**SAY** • Whew, I’m glad we made it to safety! There were a lot of dangers along the way. Sheep need shepherds to protect them and guide them safely home. Jesus taught that He is the Good Shepherd. He protects God’s people and guides them safely home to God’s kingdom. *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.*

## Pretend to care for pets

Set out a variety of toy animals, blocks, washcloths, paper shreds, and play dishes for children to play out caring for pets. Preschoolers may build fences or barns for the animals with blocks, “bathe” them with washcloths, and “feed” them with paper shreds on dishes. Talk about how to care for animals well while children play.

- toy animals
- blocks
- clean washcloths
- shredded paper
- play dishes

**SAY** • Do any of you have pets at home? Do you help take care of them? A shepherd is someone who takes care of sheep. He makes sure they have food and water, and he keeps them safe and clean. In our Bible story today, Jesus said He is the Good Shepherd. Listen to the story to find out who is Jesus’ sheep.

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Invite preschoolers to bleat like sheep as they follow you to Bible study.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** The Good Shepherd

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** John 10

**STORY POINT:** Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at John 10 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • Whose words does Jesus speak? (*God's words*) Where do we read God's words? (*in the Bible*) Is the Bible true? (*Yes!*) Today's story comes from the Book of John.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline.

Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- "The Good Shepherd" video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • Understanding God's kingdom can be hard. Jesus taught people about God's kingdom using stories the people understood. People knew if someone was a good shepherd by how well he cared for his sheep. **Jesus is the Good Shepherd.** People who trust in Jesus are His sheep. They listen to Him, follow Him, and obey Him. Like a shepherd protects his sheep, Jesus gave up His life so His people could be forgiven and have life with God forever.

## Practice the key passage

Write each word of the key passage on a separate piece of paper, crumple them, and scatter the paper wads around the room. Place the key passage marker at John 14:26. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Ask children to gather the “sheep” and bring them back to you. Read each word aloud as you open the wads, and help children place the key passage in order.

**SAY** • The people did not understand Jesus’ story about sheep. But after Jesus died and rose again, God gave the Holy Spirit to believers. The Spirit teaches us and helps us understand Jesus’ words.

Sing the key passage song, “The Holy Spirit,” and the theme song, “Just As I Am.”

- copy paper
- marker
- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)” song
- “Just As I Am” song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • We’ve learned a lot about what Jesus taught the last few weeks, and all of it shows us more about God and His kingdom. *What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.* When Jesus taught that He is the Good Shepherd, He was saying that God sent Him to save sinners and give them life in God’s kingdom!

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

**SAY** • Kesavan and Viji Balasingham teach people in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, about God’s kingdom. Show the “Toronto Photos” one at a time reading, the captions aloud. Pray for the people of Toronto, that they would choose to follow Jesus.

- “Toronto Photos” printable

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** The Good Shepherd

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** John 10

**STORY POINT:** Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 14:26

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

## LOW PREP

Tip: If you are unfamiliar with how to play “London Bridge Is Falling Down” look it up online before the session.

### Sing “Through the Gate!”

Sing the following lyrics to the tune of “London Bridge Is Falling Down” :

“Jesus says He’s like a gate, like a gate, like a gate!  
Jesus says He’s like a gate for His sheep.

“Come and enter through the gate, through the gate,  
through the gate!  
Come and enter through the gate to be saved.

“The thief comes in to steal and destroy, steal and  
destroy, steal and destroy.  
The thief comes in to steal and destroy God’s precious  
sheep! [*Leaders drop arms around a child.*]

“Jesus is the Good Shepherd, the Good Shepherd, the  
Good Shepherd.  
Jesus is the Good Shepherd who saves His sheep!”  
[*Leaders release the child.*]

**SAY • Jesus is the Good Shepherd.** God sent Him to save sinners. Jesus gave up His life so His people could be forgiven and have life with God forever. Those who trust in Jesus are His sheep. They listen to Him, follow Him, and obey Him.

## Listen carefully

Choose a child to be the *thief* and close his eyes. The rest of the children are *sheep* and will crawl on their hands and knees. Explain that you are the *shepherd*. When the *thief* says “sheep,” all the children should bleat and move away from the *thief*. The *thief* will try to tag the *sheep* by following the sounds they make. If a child is tagged, you will call that child by name and lead him into the “pen” (a corner) until the next round.

**SAY** • Jesus told a story: “If a person climbs into a sheep pen, he is not the shepherd; he is a thief,” Jesus said. “When the sheep hear the shepherd’s voice, they follow him. If the sheep hear a stranger’s voice, they run away.” **Jesus is the Good Shepherd.** Those who trust in Jesus are His sheep. They listen to Him, follow Him, and obey Him.

## Make a sheep handprint

Invite children to color a grassy scene on blue construction paper. Paint a child’s palm white and fingers and thumb black. Help her press her handprint onto the paper, fingers down. Wipe her hand and give her one or two googly eyes to adhere to the thumbprint. Suggest she glue cotton balls to the palm. Write the story point on each child’s artwork.

**SAY** • Your handprint is not like anyone else’s. God made each person different, and He knows everything about you! **Jesus is the Good Shepherd** who calls His sheep by name. Those who trust in Jesus are His sheep. He said, “I know My sheep, and My sheep know Me. My sheep hear My voice, and they follow Me. I give them life forever.” I pray that each of you will trust and follow Jesus!

## LOW PREP

Tip: Clear the area obstacles and watch the *thief* carefully to avoid injury.

- blue construction paper
- crayons or markers
- foam paintbrushes
- white washable paint
- black washable paint
- wipes for cleanup
- glue
- googly eyes
- cotton balls

- Allergy Alert
- guest with a gentle animal
- hand sanitizer

Option: Consider contacting a petting zoo and arranging for an actual sheep to visit your church to make the Bible story come alive for children.

## Pet an animal

If possible, invite a guest to bring in a small, gentle animal to visit your group. Make sure the pet is comfortable with groups of young children. Post an allergy alert. Invite children to pet the animal and ask questions about taking care of it. Be sure to wash hands thoroughly afterwards.

**SAY** • Taking care of animals is a big job! **Jesus is the Good Shepherd** who takes care of God's people. Those who trust in Jesus are His sheep. Like a shepherd risks his own life to protect his sheep from wolves, Jesus was willing to die for His people. Jesus gave up His life so His people could be forgiven and have life with God forever.



## Try a new snack

- Allergy Alert
- international foods
- napkins

Before the session, visit the international section of your grocery store and choose a few foods for preschoolers to try, such as naan bread from South Asia, nori (toasted seaweed used for sushi wraps), chips or crackers in different flavors, and imported candy. Be sure to include maple syrup or a maple-flavored cookie to represent Canada.

Post an allergy alert. Wash hands. Encourage children to sample the snacks as they wish, but do not force children to eat something they do not want to eat.

**SAY** • These are snacks from other countries. People from many different countries live in the one city of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. People in God's kingdom love all people, no matter where they come from or where they live. We can love people from all over the world. ***What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.***

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

If you did not already serve snack, offer pretzel sticks for snack. Talk about how they resemble hay stalks like sheep might eat. Good shepherds take care of their sheep and give them good food to eat. **Jesus is the Good Shepherd.** Jesus gave up His life so His people could have life with God.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. Who is the Good Shepherd? (*Jesus*)
2. Who are Jesus' sheep? (*those who trust in Him*)
3. What do sheep do when they hear the shepherd's voice? (*follow him*)
4. What did Jesus come to give His people? (*life with God forever*)
5. How does Jesus give His people life with God forever? (*Jesus gave up His life so His people could be forgiven from sin.*)
6. ***What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- pretzel sticks (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "The Holy Spirit (John 14:26)" song
- "Just As I Am" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

# Unit 24: Jesus the Miracle-Worker

## Unit Description:

Jesus' miracles were part of His purpose in bringing glory to the Father. His miracles proved that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. They strengthened people's faith and met people's needs. Through Jesus, God did what is impossible for us to do on our own. He provided forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.

## Key Passage:

Psalm 40:5

## Big Picture Question:

Why did Jesus perform miracles?  
Jesus performed miracles to show  
He is the Son of God.

## Session 1:

### Jesus Calmed a Storm

*Matthew 8; Mark 4; Luke 8*

**Story Point:** Jesus calmed a storm.

## Session 2:

### Jesus Fed a Crowd

*Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9;*

*John 6*

**Story Point:** Jesus fed a crowd.

## Session 3:

### Jesus Walked on Water

*Matthew 14; Mark 6; John 6*

**Story Point:** Jesus walked on water.

## Session 4:

### Jesus Showed His Glory

*Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9*

**Story Point:** Jesus showed His  
glory to Peter, James, and John.



## **Jesus Calmed a Storm**

Jesus calmed a storm.



## **Jesus Fed a Crowd**

Jesus fed a crowd.



## **Jesus Walked on Water**

Jesus walked on water.

## **Jesus Showed His Glory**

Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John.





Use Week of:

## Unit 24 • Session 1

# Jesus Calmed a Storm

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Matthew 8; Mark 4; Luke 8

### STORY POINT:

Jesus calmed a storm.

### KEY PASSAGE:

Psalms 40:5

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

**INTRODUCE THE STORY**  
(15–20 MINUTES)  
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**TEACH THE STORY**  
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**EXPERIENCE THE STORY**  
(20–25 MINUTES)  
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Additional resources are available at [gospelproject.com](http://gospelproject.com).

For free training and session-by-session help, visit [MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject](http://MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject).

## LEADER Bible Study

After a long day of teaching, Jesus and His disciples got into a boat to cross over to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. When their short sailing trip was interrupted by a violent storm, the disciples found themselves in danger with nowhere to turn—except to the One who created all things.

Several of the disciples were experienced fishermen. They had spent significant time on the Sea of Galilee, but this storm was so strong that the waves overtook the boat. The disciples were afraid they would drown. As the disciples panicked, what was Jesus doing? He was sleeping!

The disciples woke Jesus. The situation was out of their control, and perhaps they felt forsaken by God. But their reaction was full of irony: “Teacher! Don’t you care that we’re going to die?” (Mark 4:38).

The disciples obviously did not know why Jesus had come to earth. Jesus had come to rescue people from sin. In dying on the cross, Jesus would truly be forsaken by God. (See Matt. 27:46.) Jesus would die the death the disciples—and all sinners—deserve so that they could live forever with God. Did Jesus care that the disciples were going to die? Absolutely. But He was going to rescue them from something worse than drowning. Jesus would save them from spiritual death.

Jesus calmed the wind and the waves. He displayed His power over creation and demonstrated that He is truly God. God has power over the wind and the waves. (See Job 12:15; 28:25; Ps. 33:7; 107:25-30; Amos 4:13.)

As you teach preschoolers this Bible story, seize the opportunity to share the gospel. Help them understand the truth the disciples did not yet fully grasp. Who is this man? He is the Messiah, the Savior, and the Son of God.

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Calmed a Storm

*Matthew 8; Mark 4; Luke 8*

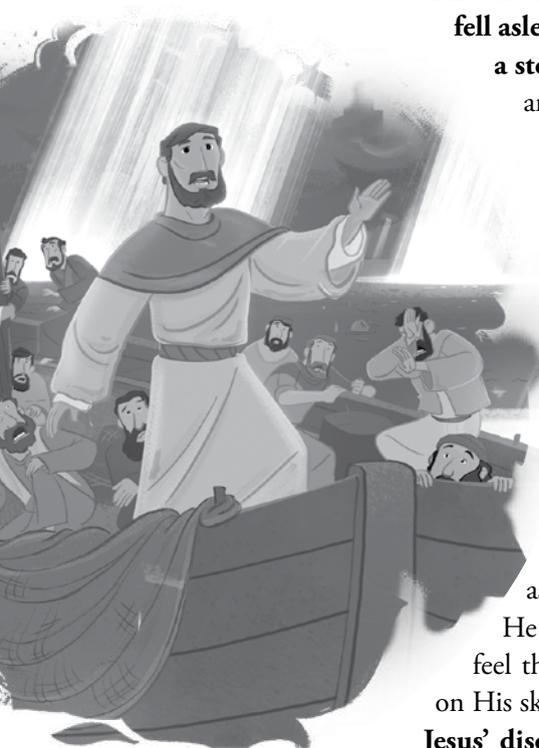
**One day**, Jesus taught crowds of people for a long time. They were near the sea. When the day was almost done, Jesus wanted to go to the other side of the sea. So **Jesus and His disciples got into a boat and began to cross the sea.**

**The disciples steered the boat, and Jesus fell asleep on a cushion. All of a sudden, a storm came.** The wind blew strong, and the waves crashed into the boat. Even though many of Jesus' disciples were fishermen, they had never seen a storm like this before. **Water from the sea splashed into the boat, and the disciples were afraid. If the boat filled up with water, it would sink. Then Jesus and all His friends might drown!**

The disciples looked at Jesus. If anyone could help them, it was Jesus. But Jesus was still fast asleep at the back of the boat! Did He even notice the storm? Did He feel the strong wind and the wet waves on His skin?

**Jesus' disciples woke Him up. They said, "Lord, save us! We are going to die!"**

Jesus opened His eyes and saw that His friends were afraid. He **got up and spoke to the wind. Then He spoke to the sea. Jesus said, "Silence! Be still!"**



**When Jesus spoke**, the wind stopped blowing. The waves stopped crashing. **Everything was calm**, and Jesus' friends were safe.

**Then Jesus looked at His disciples. He asked, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?"** Did Jesus' friends not trust Him to take care of them?

**The disciples were amazed. They said, "Who is this man? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!"**

*Christ Connection: Jesus' disciples knew He was a good man and a good teacher. But when Jesus calmed the wind and the waves, He showed His friends that He is the Lord. Jesus has power over everything He made.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Play it out:** Make the outline of a boat on the floor with painter's tape. Invite children to pretend to be the disciples and sit in the boat while you tell the story. Choose an adult leader to be Jesus and pretend to sleep at the back of the boat. Invite preschoolers to "wake Jesus" at the appropriate moment in the story.
- **Watch the water:** Fill a container halfway with water. Set a toy boat on top of the water. Invite children to take turns splashing a "wave" onto the boat. Ask children to predict if the boat will float or sink if it fills with water. Ask an adult leader to continue to gently splash water onto the boat as you tell the Bible story. When telling about how Jesus calmed the storm, let the water become still.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Calmed a Storm

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 8; Mark 4; Luke 8

**STORY POINT:** Jesus calmed a storm.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## Welcome time

- “Nobody Like Him” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “Connect the Dots” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Invite children to connect the dots in alphabetical order to reveal the boat’s sail.

**SAY** • In our Bible story today, Jesus and His disciples got into a boat and began to cross the sea. Jesus was really tired just like we are sometimes, and He fell asleep on a cushion in the boat. Listen to the story to hear what happened that made the disciples wake Jesus.

## LOW PREP

## Play a “Storm or Silence” game

Invite children to come up with sounds, actions, and motions to create a storm. They might clap their hands to make thunder, pat their legs for raindrops, stomp their feet for lightning, or blow air with their mouths to create wind. After children come up with their stormy motions and sounds, invite them to play a game. When you say “storm,”

preschoolers should use their bodies to make a loud storm. When you say “silence,” children should freeze and be quiet and still. Play several rounds as time allows.

**SAY** • The Bible tells us amazing stories about Jesus’ power.

Today’s Bible story is about a boat, a storm, and how Jesus did something amazing—something that only God could do.

## Play with water

Lay out a large towel. Fill a small shallow bin with a couple of inches of water and place it on the towel. Invite children to play in the water using the boats, cups, and plastic people figures.

- small shallow bin
- large towel
- water
- water toys (boats, cups, plastic figures)

**SAY** • Playing with toy boats in the water is fun! In

today’s Bible story, Jesus and His disciples were in a boat on the sea. Jesus was very tired, and He fell asleep. Something incredible happened after Jesus’ frightened disciples woke Him. Listen to the story to find out what that was.

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Encourage preschoolers to pretend to row a boat as they move to the Bible story area.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Calmed a Storm

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 8; Mark 4; Luke 8

**STORY POINT:** Jesus calmed a storm.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Luke 8 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • The Bible is the true story about God. Today's story about Jesus is told in not one, not two, but three books of the New Testament. It appears in the Books of Matthew; Mark; and Luke.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- "Jesus Calmed a Storm" video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • While Jesus was sleeping in a boat, a storm came. Jesus' disciples were afraid they were going to sink. When the friends woke Jesus, He got up and spoke to the wind and the sea and told them, "Silence! Be still!" **Jesus calmed a storm**, and Jesus' disciples knew He was more than just a good man and good teacher. Jesus showed His friends that He is Lord and that He has power over everything He made.

## Practice the key passage

Place the key passage marker at Psalm 40:5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Invite children to help create motions to do as they say the key passage aloud, using the key passage video as inspiration. Repeat the key passage several times, doing the motions together as a group.

**SAY** • Our key passage reminds us that God made everything and He knows everything. We are not like Him, and we can't do what He can do. **Jesus calmed a storm.** That is something that only He can do. He has the power over everything He has made.

Sing the key passage song, "Lord My God," and the theme song, "Nobody Like Him."

- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- "Lord My God (Psalm 40:5)" song
- "Nobody Like Him" song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • *Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.* When **Jesus calmed a storm**, He showed His friends that He is Lord of everything, even the wind and the waves.

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

**SAY** • A church here in the United States raised money for a missionary to buy a motorcycle so that he could travel to villages and tell about Jesus. Now he can tell Bible stories like the one we're learning, when **Jesus calmed a storm.**

Show the video and invite preschoolers to tell the ways to travel shown in the video (boats, bicycle, motorcycle, car, walking). Pray for the T people in Southeast Asia.

- "Good News for the T People" video

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE The Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Calmed a Storm

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 8; Mark 4; Luke 8

**STORY POINT:** Jesus calmed a storm.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## LOW PREP

- washable markers or watercolor paints
- paper
- paintbrushes (optional)
- cups for water (optional)

## Draw or paint Jesus with you

Distribute paper and either markers or watercolor paints to the children. Encourage the children to either draw with the markers or paint with the watercolors pictures on their paper of things that make them afraid. Then guide them to draw Jesus in their picture.

**SAY** • Jesus' friends were in a boat when a big storm came. The Bible tells us that the storm scared Jesus' friends. Jesus' friends woke Him because they were afraid. Jesus spoke to the wind and the sea, and everything became calm. **Jesus calmed a storm!** That was a miracle! Jesus showed His friends that He is more than just a good man and a good teacher, He is the Son of God. Jesus is has power over the things that scare us too. When we are afraid, we can tell Jesus about it. He will be with us and help us.

- foam pool noodle
- scissors (adult use)
- foam sheets
- tape
- paper
- straws, 1 per child
- hole punch
- shallow plastic bin
- water

## Blow boats along the water

Cut 2-inch sections from a pool noodle for each preschooler. Cut triangle-shaped "sails" from foam sheets. Punch holes at the top and bottom of each sail. Thread a cut straw through the top and bottom holes of the sail. Tape the sail to the top of the noodle piece to create a boat. Give each preschooler a boat and a straw. Invite children to take

turns floating their boats in a shallow bin of water. Show a child how to blow through her straw to move her boat on the water.

**SAY** • We blew our boats around on the water. Jesus and His disciples were on a real boat on the water when **Jesus calmed a storm.** Jesus said, “Silence! Be still!” The wind stopped blowing, and the waves stopped crashing. Everything was calm. That was a miracle—something only God can make happen. ***Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show that He is the Son of God.***

## Make a boat

Obtain a large cardboard box that several preschoolers will fit inside. Remove the top and cut an opening in one side using scissors or a utility knife. Set the box on the floor with crayons, markers, and stickers. Allow children to decorate the box like a boat. Guide children to take turns sitting and playing in the boat. Show children how to rock the box by pushing gently against its sides. Help them create a storm by gently shaking or tapping against the sides of the box.

- large cardboard box
- scissors or utility knife (adult use)
- crayons
- markers
- stickers

**SAY** • We pretended that this box was a boat in the water during a storm. Jesus was so tired from teaching people about God that He fell asleep in a boat. While He was sleeping a big storm came up and scared His friends. They were so afraid of the storm that they woke Jesus. **Jesus calmed a storm.** This was a miracle! Jesus’ friends were so amazed they said, “Who is this man? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!” ***Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show that He is the Son of God.*** We know who Jesus is. He is the Son of God!

## Play in a storm symphony

- CD or electronic device with storm sounds
- rain stick
- variety of rhythm instruments (drum, shaker, wooden blocks, tambourine, wooden sticks)

Tip: If a rainstick is unavailable, look online for directions on how to make one.

Play rainstorm sounds from a CD or electronic device. Lay several rhythm instruments on a table, including a rain stick. As the children approach the table, encourage them to listen to the storm and find instruments to make their own stormy sounds.

**SAY** • We used these instruments to create sounds like rain, lightning, thunder, and wind. Jesus' friends were in a boat when a storm suddenly came up. Jesus calmed the storm. He told the wind and the waves to stop, and the storm was silenced. ***Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God*** and has power over everything.



## Color offering envelopes

- envelopes, 1 per child
- markers
- stickers
- coins

Tip: Contact parents to let them know about the missions offering and what the offering will go toward. Suggest parents offer coins to preschoolers for completing tasks so they can add to their offering.

Give preschoolers an envelope labeled with their name to decorate. Explain that children will keep their envelopes in the room for the next few weeks as they collect money for missions. Encourage children to bring coins and bills to church the next few weeks to add to their envelopes. Put a few coins in each envelope to get preschoolers started.

**SAY** • ***Jesus performed miracles to show that He is the Son of God.*** Missionaries want all people to know that Jesus is the Son of God. We can help missionaries tell people the good news about Jesus by giving money. At church, we call that money an *offering*. We give the money God gives us back to Him so that more people can know about His Son, Jesus. Each week, you can bring an offering to put in your envelope. In a few weeks, we will give our offerings to the church to be used for missions.

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve apple slices for snack. Talk about how apple slices have a similar shape as boats. Jesus was asleep in a boat when a storm came. His disciples woke up Jesus because they were afraid. **Jesus calmed a storm** by saying, “Silence! Be still!” to the wind and the waves. The disciples were amazed. Jesus showed His friends that He is the Lord.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What was Jesus doing in the boat? (*sleeping*)
2. What came while Jesus was asleep? (*a storm*)
3. Why did Jesus’ friends wake Him? (*They were afraid.*)
4. What did Jesus say to the wind and the waves?  
(*“Silence! Be still!”*)
5. What did the wind and waves do after Jesus spoke to them? (*The wind stopped blowing, and the waves stopped crashing.*)
6. ***Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- apple slices (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- “Lord My God (Psalm 40:5)” song
- “Nobody Like Him” song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers



Use Week of:

## Unit 24 • Session 2

# Jesus Fed a Crowd

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9; John 6

### STORY POINT:

Jesus fed a crowd.

### KEY PASSAGE:

Psalms 40:5

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

**INTRODUCE THE STORY**  
(15–20 MINUTES)  
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**TEACH THE STORY**  
(10–15 MINUTES)  
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**EXPERIENCE THE STORY**  
(20–25 MINUTES)  
PAGE 138



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For free training and session-by-session help, visit [MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject](http://MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject).

## LEADER Bible Study

Jesus' disciples had been working hard, teaching people and healing them. Jesus called them to go away with Him to a desolate place so they could rest. By now, Jesus' popularity was so great that finding a place to be alone was difficult. When Jesus and His disciples crossed the Sea of Galilee, the crowd of people were already waiting for them on the other side.

Jesus saw the crowds, but He wasn't frustrated or angry. He didn't tell them to go away. Instead, He had compassion on them because they were lost—like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who seeks and saves the lost. (See Luke 19:10; John 10:14.)

The miracle Jesus performed that evening—feeding 5,000 men plus women and children—is the only miracle during Jesus' earthly ministry that is recorded in all four Gospels. The same God who provided manna for the Israelites in the wilderness multiplied loaves and fish to satisfy the crowd.

But Jesus' didn't intend to only meet people's physical needs. He came to satisfy their spiritual needs as well. In John 6:35, Jesus said, "I am the bread of life." He said that no one who comes to Him will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in Him will ever be thirsty again.

Jesus is the bread that came down from heaven. (See John 6:41.) God provided His Son as the perfect sacrifice to take away our sins. At the first Lord's Supper, Jesus broke bread—a symbol of His death on the cross. (See Matt. 26:26.)

As you teach preschoolers this Bible story, help them know that God can and will provide for our needs. Preschoolers can trust Him for their "daily bread." (See Matt. 6:11.) God met our greatest need in giving us salvation through Jesus. Will He not graciously give us all things? (Rom. 8:32)

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Fed a Crowd

*Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9; John 6*

Jesus' disciples had been healing people and teaching them. They were working so hard, they did not even have time to eat! So Jesus said, "Let's go to a quiet place and rest."

Jesus and the disciples got into a boat to cross the sea, but people ran along the shore and followed them. A crowd of people was waiting when Jesus and His friends got to the other side of the sea. Jesus saw the crowd, and He cared about the people. They needed someone to help them and show them how to live. So **Jesus taught the people about God and His kingdom, and He healed people who were sick.**

Now it was getting late, and Jesus' disciples came to Him and said, "Tell the people to go get something to eat."

But Jesus said, "You give them something to eat."

The disciples were confused. "We can't feed this many people!" they said.

"It would cost a lot of money to buy enough bread for them to eat."

"How many loaves of bread do you have?" Jesus asked.

One of Jesus' friends said, "A boy here has five loaves of bread and two fish, but that is not enough."



**Jesus told the disciples to tell everyone to sit down.** So all the people sat down on the grass. **Jesus took the five loaves of bread and two fish. He looked up to heaven, and then He blessed the bread. Then Jesus broke the bread and fish into pieces and gave it to His disciples. They gave the food to the people, and everyone ate until full.**

**Then Jesus told the disciples to collect any leftover food. They collected 12 baskets full of bread and fish! Jesus fed about five thousand men that day, plus women and children.**

*Christ Connection: Jesus gave the people food so they would not be hungry. The next day, Jesus said that He is the bread of life. (John 6:35) Only Jesus can give us everything we need. Jesus gives us forgiveness, peace with God, and life forever with Him.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

### **• Play out a picnic:**

Place a large picnic or stadium blanket on the floor. Sit with the children on the blanket and tell the Bible story. Display bread and fish on a plate for children to see.

### **• Tell the story**

**outside:** Lead preschoolers outside using a walking rope, if possible. Gather onto a large sheet or blanket. Sit in a shady place to tell the Bible story.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Fed a Crowd

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9; John 6

**STORY POINT:** Jesus fed a crowd.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## Welcome time

- “Nobody Like Him” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “How Many?” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Help preschoolers count the items in each row and write the number in the box. Encourage younger preschoolers to trace the numbers.

**SAY** • You counted fish, bread, people, and baskets. In today’s Bible story, Jesus’ disciples also counted those things. They counted some very small numbers and some very big numbers. Listen to the story to hear how Jesus made a lot from just a very little.

## LOW PREP

## Get into groups

Gather the children into one large group. Tell the children that you are going to randomly call out a number from one to five and they are to get into small groups of that number and sit down. For example, call out “two.” Children will get into groups of two and sit down. Children that are “left over” will help you “check” the groups to make sure there

are the right number of people in each group. After all the groups are formed, gather everyone back into the same large group and call out another number. Play as time allows, offering assistance as needed.

**SAY** • Good job sitting in groups! In today's Bible story, Jesus was teaching a very large group of people. It was getting late, and the people needed something to eat. Jesus instructed them to get into groups and to sit down on the grass. Listen to the story to hear how **Jesus fed a crowd** with just a little food.

## Play out a picnic

Set out a picnic basket, blanket, plastic picnic dishes, and play food. Encourage children to spread out the blanket and arrange the dishes on the blanket as if they are sitting down for a picnic. Then, encourage the children to place the food on the dishes and pretend that they are having an outdoor picnic.

- picnic basket
- blanket
- plastic picnic dishes
- toy food

**SAY** • Today, we will hear a Bible story about how **Jesus fed a crowd** of people after He finished teaching them about God. They ate their food while seated on the ground outside. It was a little like our picnic here.

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Invite children to skip around the room twice and then skip to the Bible study area and sit down.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Fed a Crowd

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9; John 6

**STORY POINT:** Jesus fed a crowd.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at John 6 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • God’s Word tells us amazing true stories about Jesus.

Today’s story comes from all four Gospels, the Books of Matthew; Mark; Luke; and John.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline.

Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- “Jesus Fed a Crowd” video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • Jesus had been teaching and healing people all day.

They got hungry, so Jesus told His disciples to feed them. The men knew they would need a lot of food. A boy offered his lunch, five loaves of bread and two fish, but that was not nearly enough. Jesus took the bread and fish, thanked God for it, and then broke it into pieces. **Jesus fed a crowd** of over 5,000 people. The next day, Jesus would say that He is the bread of life. Only Jesus can give us everything we need.

## Practice the key passage

Cut apart the “Key Passage Match Cards.” Place the key passage marker at Psalm 40:5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Lead children to put the cards in order by matching the pictures. Point to each card as you say the words. Invite children to echo you while using the motions from last week.

**SAY** • Our key passage tells us that God has done many wondrous works. Jesus did a miracle in today’s Bible that no one else could do—He took a little bread and fish and made it enough to feed over 5,000 people. Nothing compares to Jesus. His miracles prove that He is the Messiah, the Son of God.

Sing the key passage song, “Lord My God,” and the theme song, “Nobody Like Him.”

- Bible
- “Key Passage Match Cards” printable
- scissors (adult use)
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “Lord My God (Psalm 40:5)” song
- “Nobody Like Him” song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • **Jesus fed a crowd** with five loaves and two fish.

*Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.*

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

Display “Myanmar Photos.” Ask preschoolers to describe what they see in the pictures.

**SAY** • These pictures are from a country called Myanmar (MEE-yen-mar). Myanmar is very far from here. Jesus cares about the people in Myanmar, just like He cared about the people in the crowd in our Bible story. Let’s pray that the people of Myanmar will understand how much Jesus loves them.

- “Myanmar Photos” printable

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Fed a Crowd

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9; John 6

**STORY POINT:** Jesus fed a crowd.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## LOW PREP

- basket or bin
- paper

### Gather “bread” in a basket

Crumple pieces of paper and spread the paper wads around the room. Make sure there are enough paper wads for each child to retrieve several. Display the bin or basket. Invite children to pretend the paper wads are pieces of bread. Guide them to scatter around the room, picking up the “bread,” and tossing it into the basket.

**SAY** • We pretended to toss bread into a basket. **Jesus fed a crowd** of over 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. He fed the people so that they would not be hungry. All the people ate until they were full, and then Jesus’ friends gathered 12 baskets of leftover food. Jesus did an amazing miracle that only He could have done. *Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show that He is the Son of God.* Jesus is the bread of life. He gives us everything we need.

### Make a chenille stem fish

Encourage children to select a colorful chenille stem and a few beads. Show children how to bend their chenille stem at the middle to make their fish’s nose. Then guide them to thread pony beads on each end of the chenille stem. Help children tightly twist the ends of their stems together about

- chenille stems
- colorful pony beads
- small bowls for holding beads
- colorful tape

an inch from the end of the chenille stems. Bend out the wire ends to create the tail of the fish. Use tape to cover any sharp points.

**SAY** • Look at all the fish you made! A boy offered Jesus two fish and five loaves of bread to feed the hungry crowd of people. That was not enough food for so many people. But with that little bit of food, **Jesus fed a crowd** of over 5,000 people. Only Jesus can give us everything we need. Jesus gives us forgiveness, peace with God, and life forever with Him.

## Paint bread

Post an Allergy Alert. Pour a small amount of milk into several foam bowls. Place a few drops of food color in each cup of milk and mix thoroughly. Give a child a slice of bread on a foam plate. Lead her to paint her bread with the colored milk using a clean paintbrush. When children finish painting their bread, show them how to sprinkle a little bit of cinnamon and sugar on top. Set up a toaster oven in a safe place. Toast each child's bread to serve during snack.

**SAY** • In a little while, we will eat our painted bread for a snack so that we will not be hungry. Jesus fed the people some food so that they would not be hungry. In the Book of John in the Bible, Jesus called Himself the bread of life. **Jesus fed a crowd**, but He came to do so much more. Jesus gives us everything we need. Jesus will give us forgiveness, peace with God, and life forever when we trust in Him.

- Allergy Alert
- milk
- foam bowls
- food color
- plastic spoons
- foam plates
- sliced bread
- new paintbrushes
- cinnamon sugar mixture in a shaker
- toaster oven

## Work puzzles

Set out a variety of puzzles featuring food. As preschoolers work the puzzles, discuss the Bible story. Talk about how

- puzzles featuring food

Jesus' feeding so many people with such a small amount of food was a miracle. Define *miracle* as an unusual event that only God can cause to happen.

**SAY** • A boy had five loaves of bread and two fish that he gave to Jesus' disciples. **Jesus fed a crowd** of over 5,000 people! When everyone was finished eating, the disciples collected 12 baskets of bread and fish left over! That was more than they started with! Jesus did a miracle—something only God could do. ***Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.*** Jesus is the bread of life. He is the only One who can give us everything we need.



### **Make Myanmar prayer book**

Invite preschoolers to help you glue each of the “Myanmar Photos” to a sheet of construction paper. Ask preschoolers to suggest ways they can pray for the people of Myanmar and the missionaries who serve there. Transcribe each of their prayer suggestions on a sheet of paper. Invite children to decorate the pages with markers or crayons. Collect all the pages and staple them together. Cover staples with decorative tape. Leave the prayer book out in the room for the remainder of unit 24.

**SAY** • We will keep this Myanmar prayer book in our room to remind us to pray for the people of Myanmar and the missionaries telling them about Jesus. **Jesus fed a crowd** in our Bible story, but He wants to do even more for the people of Myanmar. Jesus wants to give them forgiveness, peace with God, and life forever with Him. Only Jesus can give them everything they need.

- “Myanmar Photos” printable
- construction paper
- glue stick
- crayons and markers
- stapler
- decorative tape

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve the painted toast for snack. Talk about how **Jesus fed a crowd** with just a little bit of bread and fish. The next day, Jesus said that He is the bread of life. Only Jesus can give us everything we need. Jesus gives us forgiveness, peace with God, and life forever with Him.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What did Jesus teach people? (*about God and His kingdom*)
2. How much food did the boy give to Jesus? (*five loaves of bread and two fish*)
3. Would five loaves of bread and two fish be enough to feed a crowd? (*no*)
4. Was five loaves and two fish enough for Jesus to feed a crowd? (*yes*)
5. How many people did Jesus feed? (*more than 5,000*)
6. ***Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- "Lord My God (Psalm 40:5)" song
- "Nobody Like Him" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers



Use Week of:

## Unit 24 • Session 3

# Jesus Walked on Water

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Matthew 14; Mark 6; John 6

### STORY POINT:

Jesus walked on water.

### KEY PASSAGE:

Psalm 40:5

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

#### INTRODUCE THE STORY

(15–20 MINUTES)

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#### TEACH THE STORY

(10–15 MINUTES)

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#### EXPERIENCE THE STORY

(20–25 MINUTES)

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## LEADER Bible Study

Jesus had just fed more than five thousand people on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. After sending away the people and directing His disciples to go back across the sea, Jesus went to a mountain to pray. It was late, and He sought to be alone with His Father. Jesus was preparing to fulfill His Father's plan. Before long, He would die on the cross and rescue people from sin.

While Jesus prayed, the disciples struggled to cross the sea. A storm came and tossed their boat up and down. They didn't make any progress against the waves. Then, in the early morning hours, they saw a figure walking toward them on the water. They thought it was a ghost, but it was Jesus!

Peter asked Jesus to command him to come out on the water, and Jesus called to him. Peter walked on the water too—until he remembered the storm. Peter took his eyes off of Jesus, and he began to sink. Peter cried out to Jesus, “Save me!”

Jesus took Peter by the hand, and they got into the boat. The wind and waves calmed. Though Peter had doubted, the disciples worshiped Jesus. Clearly He was no ordinary man; this was the Son of God—the promised Messiah!

Jesus proved that He can be trusted. His miracles, teaching, death, and resurrection showed that He is who He says He is. As you teach preschoolers, encourage them to look to Jesus in faith every day. We can seek Him for our salvation and for help as we live in this world. Even in the midst of fear and doubt, we can hold out our empty hands and cry, “Lord, save me!” He will answer, and we can respond in worship of our Lord and Savior.

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Walked on Water

*Matthew 14; Mark 6; John 6*

**Jesus** had been teaching people by the sea. It was getting late, so He **told His disciples to get into a boat and go to the other side of the sea. Jesus went up on a mountain to pray by Himself.**

That evening, the boat was far from the shore when the wind started to blow. Big waves tossed the boat up and down. Jesus was still on the mountain alone.

**In the middle of the night, Jesus walked on the sea toward His disciples. When the disciples saw Jesus, they were very afraid!**

**“It’s a ghost!” they cried.**

**Jesus spoke to them right away. “It’s Me,” He said. “Don’t be afraid!”**

**Jesus’ disciple Peter said, “Lord, if it really is You, tell me to come to You on the water.”**

**So Jesus said, “Come!”**

**Peter got out of the boat. He started walking on the water toward Jesus. But then Peter saw how windy it was, and he was afraid. Peter began to sink into the water.**

**“Lord, save me!” Peter cried.**

**Jesus reached out and grabbed Peter. “Why didn’t you trust Me?” Jesus asked.**



**They got into the boat and the wind stopped. Everyone in the boat worshiped Jesus. “You really are the Son of God,” they said.**

*Christ Connection: Jesus showed that we can trust Him. His life, death, and resurrection showed that Jesus is who He says He is. When we look to Jesus and trust Him, He will save us from our sin.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Make a storm:** As you tell the Bible story, lightly mist the children with water, flash the lights, turn on a fan, play thunderstorm sounds from an electronic device, and let the children experience what stormy water might feel like.
- **Draw and tell:** On a large sheet of paper or dry erase board, draw while telling the Bible story. Begin by drawing a mountain shape on the top portion and a wavy sea on the bottom. Add the following to the drawing as the story unfolds: a boat, men in the boat, and Jesus and Peter walking on the water.

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Walked on Water

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 14; Mark 6; John 6

**STORY POINT:** Jesus walked on water.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## Welcome time

- "Nobody Like Him" song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church's security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- "Sink or Float?" activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Lead children to cross out items they think will sink in water. Then encourage children to circle the items they think will float in water.

**SAY** • Good job deciding what would sink and what would float. Today's Bible story takes place on the sea where Jesus' disciples were in a boat. One of Jesus' disciples began to sink in the water, but Jesus rescued him. Listen to the story to hear which disciple Jesus rescued from the water.

## LOW PREP

- blindfold (optional)

## Take a trust walk

Invite children to sit in a circle. Choose a child and tell him to shut his eyes or if he wishes, you may cover his eyes with a blindfold. Take the child's hand and carefully lead him around the room and back to his place in the circle. Repeat with each child as time allows.

**SAY** • You had to trust me in order to go on a walk with me around the room. In today's Bible story, Peter had to trust Jesus in order to take a walk someplace special with Him.

## Sink the bowl

Fill a shoebox-sized plastic bin two-thirds full of water. Float a small foam bowl on the surface of the water. Help the children to carefully place aquarium gems, large marbles, or polished stones in the bowl one by one until the bowl sinks. Count out loud how many items can go in the bowl before it sinks. Repeat the experiment several times to see if that number changes.

- shoebox-sized plastic bin
- water
- foam bowl
- small items (aquarium gems, large marbles, polished stones)

**SAY** • In our Bible story today one of Jesus' friends, His disciple named Peter, walked on water with Jesus until he saw the wind and the waves. He was afraid and began to sink like our bowl. Listen to the story to hear how Jesus saved Peter.

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Lead the children to pretend the floor is water as they move to Bible study.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Walked on Water

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 14; Mark 6; John 6

**STORY POINT:** Jesus walked on water.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Matthew 14 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • The Bible is God’s Word, and God’s Word is true!

Today’s true story about Jesus comes from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and John.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- “Jesus Walked on Water” video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • The disciples looked out from their boat and saw Jesus. **Jesus walked on water!** Peter wanted to walk on the water too. Jesus told him to come. Peter started walking on the water toward Jesus. But then Peter saw how windy it was, and he was afraid. Peter began to sink, but Jesus reached out and saved Peter. When they got into the boat, the wind stopped. Jesus showed that we can trust Him. When we look to Jesus and trust Him, He will save us from our sin.

## Practice the key passage

Hide the “Key Passage Match Cards” around the room. Place the key passage marker at Psalm 40:5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the verse aloud. Invite children to find the hidden cards and put them in the correct order. Review the motions from the previous weeks.

**SAY** • Our key passage reminds us that God does many wonderful things. He made the world and everything in it, including the sea. He is able to do things we could never do, like walking on water or calming a storm.

Sing the key passage song, “Lord My God,” and the theme song, “Nobody Like Him.”

- Bible
- “Key Passage Match Cards” printable
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “Lord My God (Psalm 40:5)” song
- “Nobody Like Him” song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • **Jesus walked on water.** People cannot normally walk on water. They would sink if they tried! Walking on water is a miracle. *Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.* We can trust Him to save us from our sin.

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

**SAY** • Missionaries use many different kinds of transportation when they travel to tell people about Jesus. Watch this video and count the ways missionaries travel.

Show the video. Hold up your fingers to keep count of the different types of transportation as the video plays. Encourage preschoolers to keep count with you on their fingers too. Close in prayer, thanking God for missionaries.

- “Around the World in 80 Ways” video

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Walked on Water

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 14; Mark 6; John 6

**STORY POINT:** Jesus walked on water.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## LOW PREP

· painter's tape

### Walk, march, skip, hop

Using the painter's tape, make six parallel lines of tape about a foot apart on the floor. Invite the children to line up at the first line. Instruct them to take walking steps, stepping only on each line. After they finish walking, instruct them to take marching steps only on each line. Repeat with skipping and hopping steps.

**SAY** • We had fun walking and skipping together. **Jesus walked on water** out to the boat where Peter and His disciples were. Peter wanted to walk to Jesus on the water, and he was able to until he saw how windy it was. Then he began to sink into the water. Jesus saved Peter and showed Peter and us that we can trust Him. Jesus' life, death, and resurrection showed that He is who He says He is. When we look to Jesus and trust Him, He will save us from our sin.

### Rip and tear waves

Distribute a sheet of black construction paper to each child. Show them how to tear long strips of blue and green construction paper to make ocean waves. Encourage the children to glue their waves onto the black construction paper. Help them to draw a simple sailboat above their waves with chalk. (A half circle for the boat hull, straight

- black construction paper
- shades of blue and green construction paper
- glue sticks
- chalk

line for the mast, and triangle for the sail works well.) Suggest they add stars to their art as well.

**SAY** • Jesus told His disciples to get into a boat while He went to pray. In the middle of the night, **Jesus walked on water** toward His disciples. Peter asked if he could walk to Jesus on the sea, and Jesus told him to come. But Peter saw the wind and the waves, and he became very afraid and began to sink in the water. Jesus reached out and grabbed Peter. “Why didn’t you trust Me?” Jesus asked. Jesus showed that we can trust Him. His life, death, and resurrection showed that Jesus is who He says He is. When we look to Jesus and trust Him, He will save us from our sin.

## Test your guess

Fill a plastic bin halfway with water. Invite preschoolers to look at their completed activity pages from Introduce the Story. Show children the front of the page and remind them that they had to make guesses about which items would sink or float in the water. Encourage preschoolers to place each of the items one by one in the bin of water to see if they guessed correctly. If the group did not complete the activity page, lead them to predict what will happen before putting each item in the water.

**SAY** • Some of the items we put in the water floated, some sank. We know that it is impossible for a person to walk on water, but **Jesus walked on water**. He also allowed Peter to walk on water. Walking on water was a miracle—something only God could make happen. *Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.*

- plastic bin
- water
- completed “Sink or Float?” activity pages
- toy car
- wooden alphabet block
- pencil
- small stone
- tennis ball
- blunt-tipped scissors
- plastic boat
- crayon

- beach towels
- beach balls or soft foam balls

Tip: Use smaller towels for younger preschoolers

## Make waves

Form pairs. Give each pair a beach towel and show them how to hold a corner in each hand. Guide preschoolers to make waves by moving the towel up and down. Lead the children to make big waves and small waves by moving the towel up and down quickly or slowly. For added fun, toss foam balls on the towels and challenge preschoolers to bounce a ball up and down while keeping it on the towel.

**SAY** • We made big and little waves with our beach towels.

The disciples were in a boat at night on the sea.

The wind started to blow, and the waves tossed the boat up and down. At midnight Jesus came walking toward the disciples on the water, and He didn't sink.

When Jesus saved Peter and got into the boat with him, the wind and the waves stopped. Jesus can do things no one else can do. ***Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.***



## Play with transportation toys

- transportation toys (boats, cars, motorcycles, airplanes, and so forth)

Set out transportation toys for preschoolers to play with. Ask where each form of transportation would be used (boat on water, airplane in the air). As preschoolers play, explain that missionaries use many kinds of transportation to help them reach people with the story of Jesus.

**SAY** • Some roads are too small and too bumpy for a car, so missionaries use motorcycles. If they come to a river, they might need a canoe. And then they might have to hike on foot to reach a village where people need to know about Jesus. Let's pray for missionaries who go all over the world to tell people about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve blue gelatin snack cups and vanilla wafers. Suggest preschoolers pretend their snacks are “boats on the water.” Talk about how the disciples were in a boat on the sea when they saw Jesus walking on the water. They were afraid, but Jesus showed that we can trust Him. His life, death, and resurrection showed that Jesus is who He says He is. When we trust Him, He will save us from our sin.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What did Jesus tell His disciples to do while He went to pray? (*get into a boat, go to the other side of the sea*)
2. In the middle of the night, who did the disciples see? (*Jesus*)
3. What was Jesus doing? (**Jesus walked on water.**)
4. Who also wanted to walk on water? (*Peter*)
5. Who saved Peter when he sank? (*Jesus*)
6. ***Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- blue gelatin snack cups (optional)
- vanilla wafers (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- “Lord My God (Psalm 40:5)” song
- “Nobody Like Him” song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers



Use Week of:

## Unit 24 • Session 4

# Jesus Showed His Glory

### BIBLE PASSAGE:

Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9

### STORY POINT:

Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John.

### KEY PASSAGE:

Psalms 40:5

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

**INTRODUCE THE STORY**  
(15–20 MINUTES)  
PAGE 158



**TEACH THE STORY**  
(10–15 MINUTES)  
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**EXPERIENCE THE STORY**  
(20–25 MINUTES)  
PAGE 162



Additional resources are available at [gospelproject.com](http://gospelproject.com).

For free training and session-by-session help, visit [MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject](http://MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject).

## LEADER Bible Study

As Jesus traveled and taught, people were trying to figure Him out. Who was this man? Was He a prophet? Was He crazy? Where did He come from? Some people thought He was John the Baptist who had been raised from the dead; others thought He was Elijah or another ancient prophet. Peter recognized Jesus as God's Messiah. (See Luke 9:19-20.)

One of the ways Jesus revealed His identity was through His miracles. Jesus performed miracles to glorify God, to show He is the Son of God, and to care for people. For three of Jesus' disciples—Peter, James, and John—Jesus' identity became even more clear when they witnessed His transfiguration, or change in appearance. The disciples accompanied Jesus to a mountain to pray. The location was likely Mount Hermon, which sits about 40 miles north of the Sea of Galilee.

Jesus' appearance changed as He prayed: His face changed and His clothes became dazzling white. Moses and Elijah appeared with Him, and they talked about Jesus' upcoming departure (His death and resurrection). Peter, James, and John had been sleeping, but they awoke to the incredible sight.

When you teach, review who Moses and Elijah were. In the Old Testament, God called Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Later, Elijah was a prophet to Israel. As Moses and Elijah were leaving, a cloud covered the whole group and a voice—God the Father's—said, "This is my Son, the Chosen One; listen to him!"

At the transfiguration, Peter, James, and John beheld Jesus' glory. We look forward to the day when Jesus will return in full glory to make all things new. While we wait, God calls us to share the gospel with others so they can share in the joy of knowing Jesus, the Son of God, and seeing His glory when He returns.

# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Showed His Glory

*Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9*

One day, Jesus went up on a high mountain with Peter, James, and John. The disciples fell asleep, and Jesus prayed. All of a sudden, Jesus changed. His face was shining like the sun, and His clothes were bright white. The disciples woke up and saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus.

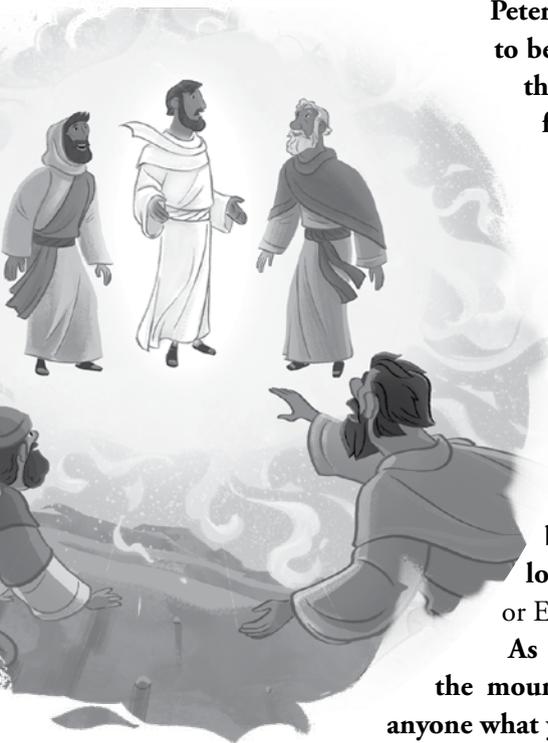
Peter said, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If You want, I will set up three tents here: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

Peter was still talking when a bright cloud covered them. A voice from the cloud said, “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased. Listen to Him!” The disciples fell facedown. They were so scared!

Jesus came up and touched them. He said, “Get up. Do not be afraid.” When the disciples looked up, they did not see Moses or Elijah. They only saw Jesus.

As the friends were coming down the mountain, Jesus said, “Do not tell anyone what you saw until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”

The disciples did not tell anyone, but they wondered what Jesus meant. They asked Him, “Why do the Jewish teachers say that Elijah must come before the Messiah comes?”



Jesus told them that Elijah had already come—that is, a prophet like Elijah had come. Jesus was talking about John the Baptist. The people did not think John was a prophet, and they hurt him. Jesus said that they would hurt Him too.

*Christ Connection: Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John. Jesus said He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.*

## **Bible Storytelling Tips**

- **Shine a light:**  
Dim the lights and tape the Bible story picture poster to a focal wall. As you tell the Bible story, shine a flashlight on the picture. Make your voice sound deeper when you read the voice from the cloud.
- **Use the timeline:**  
When you mention Moses and Elijah in the Bible story, point to Bible story pictures on the giant timeline or small group timeline that feature Moses and Elijah. Moses can be found in Volume 2: “Out of Egypt” and Elijah can be found in Volume 5: “A Nation Divided.”

# INTRODUCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Showed His Glory

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9

**STORY POINT:** Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## Welcome time

- “Nobody Like Him” song
- offering basket
- Allergy Alert
- favorite toys related to the Bible story theme

Play a theme song in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow your church’s security procedures. Set an offering basket near the door to collect at an appropriate time. Post an allergy alert, if necessary. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

## Activity page

- “Which Is Different?” activity page, 1 per child
- crayons or markers

Invite children to circle the item in each row that is different from the others.

**SAY** • Good job deciding which one in each row is different. In today’s Bible story, Jesus did something amazing that showed His disciples that He is different from anyone else on earth. Listen to the story.

## LOW PREP

- chairs

## Play “Wake up, Disciples”

Invite preschoolers to sit in chairs in a large circle. Leave space between the chairs. Explain that when you say, “Fall asleep, disciples,” children should close their eyes, and pretend to sleep. When you say, “Wake up, disciples,” children should open their eyes, jump up, and find a new seat. Say the phrases several times, alternating the phrases and varying the game speed.

**SAY** • In our Bible story today, Jesus went up on a high mountain with Peter, James, and John. The disciples fell asleep. When they awoke, they saw a most amazing sight! Listen to the story to hear what Peter, James, and John saw.

## Count clouds by three

Arrange cotton balls in a pile next to a muffin tin. Give a child a set of plastic tongs and show him how to hold the tongs to grasp and pick up a cotton ball. Invite him to pick up three cotton balls with the tongs one at a time and put them into one of the muffin tin cups. Encourage children to take turns with the tongs.

- cotton balls
- muffin tins
- plastic tongs

**SAY** • Our cotton balls look kind of like clouds. In today's Bible story, Jesus took three of His disciples up a high mountain. While they were there, the three disciples saw Jesus transform in an amazing way. Then they heard God the Father speaking to them about Jesus from a cloud. Listen to the story to hear what happened.

## Transition to teach the story

To gain the attention of all the preschoolers to move them to Bible study, show the countdown video, turn the lights off and on, or clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy. Lead preschoolers to pretend to put on a backpack, grab a walking stick, and to hike up a mountain as they move to Bible study.

- countdown video (optional)

# TEACH the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Showed His Glory

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9

**STORY POINT:** Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## Introduce the Bible story

- Bible
- bookmark
- Giant Timeline

Place a bookmark at Mark 9 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • The Bible is God's words. All God's words are true.

Today we will hear a story about Jesus that comes from the Books of Matthew, Mark, and Luke in the New Testament part of the Bible.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

## Watch or tell the Bible story

- Story Point Poster
- "Jesus Showed His Glory" video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

**SAY** • **Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John.**

The way Jesus looked changed right in front of them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes glowed bright white. Then the disciples heard a voice from a cloud that said, "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased." Jesus said He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.

## Practice the key passage

Place the key passage marker at Psalm 40:5. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Say the key passage using the motions from previous sessions. Say the passage again stopping at different times, inviting children to say the word that comes next.

**SAY** • Our key passage reminds us that God has done many wondrous things. Nothing compares to Him. When Jesus showed His glory to His disciples, He showed that He is unlike anyone else. He is the Son of God. Sing the key passage song, “Lord My God,” and the theme song, “Nobody Like Him.”

- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “Lord My God (Psalm 40:5)” song
- “Nobody Like Him” song

## Learn the big picture question

**SAY** • Jesus’ transformation on the mountain was a miracle, but Jesus would soon do an even greater miracle by dying on a cross, rising from the dead, and going back to heaven. *Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.* Jesus is God’s Son sent to save us from sin.

- Big Picture Question Poster



## Missions moment

Display the photo or ask a volunteer to hold it up while you read the story aloud.

**SAY** • This story and picture reminds us that people all over the world need Jesus. We need Jesus here, and people all the way on the other side of the world need Him too. Jesus showed His glory to His friends in the Bible, and He shows His glory today! Let’s pray and thank God for loving all the people He made.

- “They Need Jesus” printable

## Pray and transition to experience the story

# EXPERIENCE the Story



**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus Showed His Glory

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9

**STORY POINT:** Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 40:5

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

## LOW PREP

- beanbag or paper wad
- Bible Story Picture Posters from unit 24

### Toss a beanbag and review

Place the four Bible story picture posters from unit 24 in a row on the floor against a wall. Invite children to line up several feet from the pictures. Give the first child the beanbag or paper wad and direct him to toss the beanbag onto one of the pictures. When the beanbag lands on or near a picture, invite the child to tell the group one thing he remembers from that Bible story. Help as needed. Allow each child to take a turn and play as long as time allows.

**SAY** • We have learned about some of the miracles that Jesus performed while He was on earth. In our Bible stories, we learned that Jesus calmed a storm, fed a crowd, walked on water, and showed His glory to His disciples. *Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.*

### Play out the Bible story

- play tent or sheet
- Bible times dress-up clothes
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Set up a play tent or place a sheet over a small table to create a tent. If space and resources allow, set up three tents. Set out Bible times dress-up clothes. Guide children to dress up and pretend to be Jesus' disciples. Lead children to play out falling asleep and reacting to seeing Jesus in His glory. Encourage children to sit in the tent with the Bible story picture and Bibles.

**SAY • Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John** on the mountain. When the disciples awoke, they saw Jesus talking with Moses and Elijah. Peter said, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If You want, I will set up three tents here.” Peter was still talking when a cloud covered them and they heard God’s voice say, “This is My beloved Son.” As God’s Son, Jesus said He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.

## Make shaving cream clouds

Place a small mound of shaving cream on a clean table in front of each seated child. Encourage children to use their hands and fingers to play with their “cloud” on the table and to draw pictures or letters in their cloud. Suggest older preschoolers write a *J* for *Jesus*, *G* for *God*, or the number 3. Demonstrate how to draw a heart or a mountain in their cloud. Caution children not to touch their face or eyes with shaving cream on their hands.

- Allergy Alert
- non-menthol shaving cream
- craft sticks (optional)
- wipes

**SAY •** Was it fun playing with your pretend cloud? When **Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John** on the mountain, a bright cloud covered Jesus and His disciples. A voice from the cloud said, “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased.” Jesus is unlike anyone else on earth. He is God’s perfect Son. Jesus said He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.

## Experiment with flashlights

Place flashlights and compact discs on a table. Encourage

- several working flashlights
- compact discs

preschoolers to experiment with the flashlights. They may shine their flashlights against a compact disc to see a colorful rainbow. Demonstrate how to make shadow puppets on the wall. Consider dimming the lights for preschoolers to shine their flashlights in the dark. Remind children not to shine the light in someone's eyes.

**SAY** • When **Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John**, the way He looked miraculously changed. He shone brighter than the most powerful flashlight in the world could shine! His face was shining like the sun, and His clothes were bright white. Jesus told Peter, James, and John that He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.



### **Build a pagoda**

Show preschoolers the picture of the pagoda.

Explain that pagodas are very common in parts of Asia, like the country of Myanmar. Draw attention to the points on top. Invite preschoolers to build a pagoda from small blocks and play dough. Encourage them to use the play dough to make a pointed spire.

**SAY** • Would you like to visit a pagoda one day? If we traveled to Myanmar, we would see pagodas in real life! Missionaries travel to different countries to tell people the good news about Jesus. Maybe one day you will travel to another county to tell the people there about Jesus. For now, you can pray for missionaries in other countries and tell people about Jesus right now. Let's pray and ask God to help missionaries and us tell people that Jesus is going to come again in His glory to make everything new.

- "Pagoda" printable
- small blocks
- play dough

## Snack and review

Play the countdown video to signal the end of activities. Wash hands and gather preschoolers for snack time. Pray, thanking God for the snack.

Serve three mini muffins to each child for snack. Talk about how **Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John**. The disciples wanted to set up three tents for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. As Jesus and the three disciples came down the mountain, Jesus asked them not to tell anyone what they had seen until He was raised from the dead.

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. Whom did Jesus take with Him up the mountain? (*Peter, James, and John*)
2. How did the way Jesus looked change? (*His face was shining like the sun, and His clothes were bright white.*)
3. When the disciples awoke, whom did they see talking with Jesus? (*Moses and Elijah*)
4. What did the voice from the cloud call Jesus? (*“My beloved Son”*)
5. ***Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.***

## Transition

When preschoolers finish their snack, they may color the Bible story coloring page, play a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question, or sing along to the key passage or theme song.

If parents are picking up their children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.

- countdown video (optional)
- Allergy Alert
- paper cups and napkins
- snack food
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- mini muffins (optional)

- Bible Story Coloring Page
- crayons
- Key Passage Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- “Lord My God (Psalm 40:5)” song
- “Nobody Like Him” song
- Big Picture Cards for Families: Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

## Volume 1: In the Beginning

### Unit 1: God Created Everything

- Session 1: God Created the World (*Genesis 1*)
- Session 2: God Created People (*Genesis 1–2*)
- Session 3: Sin Entered the World (*Genesis 3*)
- Session 4: Noah and the Ark (*Genesis 6–9*)
- Session 5: The Tower of Babel (*Genesis 11*)
- Session 6: The Suffering of Job (*Job*)

### Unit 2: God Formed a Nation

- Session 1: God's Covenant with Abraham (*Genesis 12; 15; 17*)
- Session 2: Abraham and Isaac (*Genesis 22*)
- Session 3: Isaac and Rebekah (*Genesis 24*)
- Session 4: God's Promise to Isaac (*Genesis 25–26*)

### Unit 3: The Nation Grew

- Session 1: Jacob and Esau (*Genesis 27–28*)
- Session 2: Jacob and Rachel (*Genesis 29–31*)
- Session 3: Jacob's New Name (*Genesis 32–33*)

## Volume 2: Out of Egypt

### Unit 4: God's People in Egypt

- Session 1: Joseph Sent to Egypt (*Genesis 37*)
- Session 2: Joseph Explained Dreams (*Genesis 39–41*)
- Session 3: Joseph Saved His Family (*Genesis 42–46; 50*)
- Christmas: Jesus Was Born (*Isaiah 9; Luke 2*)
- Session 4: Moses Was Born and Called (*Exodus 1–4*)
- Session 5: The Plagues and the Passover (*Exodus 5–12*)
- Session 6: The Red Sea Crossing (*Exodus 13–15*)

### Unit 5: Toward the Promised Land

- Session 1: Bread from Heaven (*Exodus 15–17*)
- Session 2: Jethro Helped Moses (*Exodus 18*)
- Session 3: The Ten Commandments (*Exodus 19–20*)

### Unit 6: Worship in the Wilderness

- Session 1: The Golden Calf (*Exodus 32; 34*)
- Session 2: The Tabernacle Was Built (*Exodus 35–40*)
- Session 3: Rules for Sacrifice (*Leviticus*)

## Volume 3: Into the Promised Land

### Unit 7: Wandering in the Wilderness

- Session 1: Joshua and Caleb (*Numbers 13–14*)
- Session 2: The Bronze Snake (*Numbers 20–21*)
- Session 3: Balaam and Balak (*Numbers 22–24*)
- Session 4: Moses' Farewell (*Deuteronomy 31–34*)

### Unit 8: Conquering the Land

- Session 1: Crossing the Jordan (*Joshua 1–4*)
- Session 2: The Battle of Jericho (*Joshua 2; 6*)
- Session 3: Taking the Land (*Joshua 10–11; 24*)
- Easter: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection (*Matthew 26–28*)

### Unit 9: The Cycle of Judges

- Session 1: Israel's Unfaithfulness (*Judges 1–3*)
- Session 2: Deborah and Barak (*Judges 4–5*)
- Session 3: Gideon (*Judges 6–8*)
- Session 4: Samson (*Judges 13–16*)
- Session 5: Ruth and Boaz (*Ruth*)

## Volume 4: A Kingdom Provided

### Unit 10: Samuel and King Saul

- Session 1: Hannah and Samuel (*1 Samuel 1–3*)
- Session 2: The Ark Was Captured (*1 Samuel 4–6*)
- Session 3: Israel's First King (*1 Samuel 8–15*)

### Unit 11: Great King David

- Session 1: David Was Anointed (*1 Samuel 16–17*)
- Session 2: David Showed Mercy (*1 Samuel 24*)
- Session 3: God's Covenant with David (*2 Samuel 6–7*)
- Session 4: David's Kindness (*2 Samuel 9*)
- Session 5: David Sinned and Was Restored (*2 Samuel 11–12; Psalm 51*)
- Session 6: David's Psalm (*Psalms 23*)

### Unit 12: Wise King Solomon

- Session 1: Solomon Asked for Wisdom (*1 Kings 2–3*)
- Session 2: Wisdom for God's People (*Proverbs; Ecclesiastes; Song of Songs*)
- Session 3: Solomon Built the Temple (*1 Kings 6–8*)
- Session 4: The Kingdom Divided (*1 Kings 11–12*)

## Volume 5: A Nation Divided

### Unit 13: Elijah and Elisha

- Session 1: Elijah and the Widow (*1 Kings 17*)
- Session 2: Elijah at Mount Carmel (*1 Kings 18–19*)
- Session 3: Elijah and Elisha (*2 Kings 2*)
- Session 4: Elisha and the Army (*2 Kings 6–7*)

### Unit 14: The Northern Kingdom of Israel

- Session 1: Jonah, Prophet to Nineveh (*Jonah*)
- Session 2: Hosea, Prophet to Israel (*Hosea*)
- Session 3: Israel Taken Captive (*2 Kings 17*)

### Unit 15: The Southern Kingdom of Judah

- Session 1: Isaiah, Prophet to Judah (*Isaiah 6; 53*)
- Session 2: Hezekiah and Josiah (*2 Chronicles 29; 34–35*)
- Session 3: Jeremiah, Prophet to Judah (*Jeremiah*)
- Session 4: Habakkuk the Prophet (*Habakkuk*)
- Session 5: Judah Taken Captive (*2 Chronicles 36*)
- Session 6: Ezekiel Gave Hope (*Ezekiel 37*)

## Volume 6: A People Restored

### Unit 16: Hope in Exile

- Session 1: The Fiery Furnace (*Daniel 3*)
- Session 2: Nebuchadnezzar's Dream (*Daniel 4*)
- Session 3: Daniel in the Lions' Den (*Daniel 6*)
- Christmas: Jesus Was Born (*Matthew 1*)
- Session 4: Daniel's Dream (*Daniel 7*)

### Unit 17: Return to the Land

- Session 1: Obadiah the Prophet (*Obadiah*)
- Session 2: The Captives Came Home (*Ezra 1–3; Haggai*)
- Session 3: The Temple Was Rebuilt (*Ezra 4–6*)
- Session 4: Zechariah the Prophet (*Zechariah*)

### Unit 18: The People Restored

- Session 1: Esther Saved Her People (*Esther*)
- Session 2: The Walls Rebuilt (*Nehemiah 1–6*)
- Session 3: God's People Repented (*Nehemiah 7–13*)
- Session 4: Malachi the Prophet (*Malachi*)

## Volume 7: Jesus the Messiah

### Unit 19: Into the World

- Session 1: From Adam to Jesus (*Matthew 1; Luke 3; John 1*)
- Session 2: John Was Born (*Luke 1*)
- Session 3: Jesus Was Born (*Luke 2*)

- Session 4: Jesus Was Dedicated (*Luke 2*)
- Session 5: Jesus as a Child (*Matthew 2; Luke 2*)

### Unit 20: Prepare the Way

- Session 1: Jesus' Baptism (*Matthew 3; Mark 1; Luke 3; John 1*)
- Easter: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection (*Matthew 26–28; 1 Corinthians 15*)
- Session 2: Jesus' Temptation (*Matthew 4; Mark 1; Luke 4*)
- Session 3: John Pointed to Jesus (*Matthew 3; John 1; 3*)
- Session 4: Jesus Called Disciples (*Matthew 4; 9; Mark 1–3; Luke 5–6*)

### Unit 21: Among the People

- Session 1: Jesus' Early Miracles (*Mark 1*)
- Session 2: Jesus Taught in Nazareth (*Luke 4*)
- Session 3: Jesus and Nicodemus (*John 3*)
- Session 4: Jesus and the Samaritan Woman (*John 4*)

## Volume 8: Jesus the Servant

### Unit 22: Jesus the Healer

- Session 1: Jesus Healed Ten Men (*Luke 17*)
- Session 2: Jesus Healed a Woman and a Girl (*Mark 5*)
- Session 3: Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Lame (*John 5*)
- Session 4: Jesus Healed a Man Who Was Blind (*John 9*)

### Unit 23: Jesus the Teacher

- Session 1: The Sermon on the Mount (*Matthew 5–7*)
- Session 2: The Cost of Following Jesus (*Matthew 8; 16; Luke 9; 14*)
- Session 3: Jesus Taught About Prayer (*Luke 11; 18*)
- Session 4: Jesus Taught About Possessions (*Luke 12*)
- Session 5: The Good Shepherd (*John 10*)

### Unit 24: Jesus the Miracle-Worker

- Session 1: Jesus Calmed a Storm (*Matthew 8; Mark 4–5; Luke 8*)
- Session 2: Jesus Fed a Crowd (*Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9; John 6*)
- Session 3: Jesus Walked on Water (*Matthew 14; Mark 6; John 6*)
- Session 4: Jesus Showed His Glory (*Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9*)

## Volume 9: Jesus the Savior

### Unit 25: The Kingdom to Come

Session 1: Kingdom Parables (*Matthew 13*)

Session 2: Three Parables (*Luke 15*)

Session 3: Jesus' Hard Teachings (*John 6*)

Session 4: Jesus Raised Lazarus (*John 11*)

### Unit 26: To the Cross

Session 1: Jesus' Triumphant Entry

(*Matthew 21; Mark 11; Luke 19; John 12*)

Session 2: Jesus Was Questioned

(*Matthew 22; Mark 12; Luke 20*)

Session 3: The Last Supper

(*Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; John 13*)

Session 4: Jesus Was Arrested (*Matthew 26–27*)

Session 5: Jesus' Crucifixion

(*Matthew 26–27; John 18–19*)

### Unit 27: Out of the Grave

Session 1: Jesus' Resurrection

(*Matthew 28; John 20*)

Session 2: The Emmaus Disciples (*Luke 24*)

Session 3: Jesus Appeared to the Disciples

(*Luke 24; John 20*)

Session 4: Jesus Returned to Heaven

(*Matthew 28; Acts 1*)

## Volume 10: The Mission Begins

### Unit 28: The Holy Spirit Empowers

Session 1: The Holy Spirit Came (*Acts 2*)

Session 2: Peter Healed a Man (*Acts 3–4*)

Christmas: Jesus Was Born (*John 1*)

Session 3: Faithful in Hard Times

(*1 Peter 1–2*)

Session 4: Living Like Jesus (*2 Peter 1*)

### Unit 29: The Early Church

Session 1: Ananias and Sapphira (*Acts 4–5*)

Session 2: Stephen's Sermon (*Acts 6–7*)

Session 3: The Good News (*Romans 5–6*)

Session 4: Doers of the Word (*James 1–2*)

### Unit 30: The Church Grew

Session 1: Philip and the Ethiopian (*Acts 8*)

Session 2: Paul Met Jesus (*Acts 8–9*)

Session 3: New Life in Jesus (*Colossians 2–3*)

Session 4: Guarding the Truth (*2 Corinthians 11*)

## Volume 11: The Church United

### Unit 31: From Jews to Gentiles

Session 1: Peter and Cornelius (*Acts 10*)

Session 2: Barnabas in Antioch (*Acts 11*)

Session 3: Jesus Is Better (*Hebrews 1–8*)

Session 4: The Hall of Faith (*Hebrews 11*)

Easter: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection  
(*Matthew 26–28; John 20*)

### Unit 32: Making Disciples

Session 1: Peter Escaped from Prison (*Acts 12*)

Session 2: Paul's First Journey (*Acts 13–14*)

Session 3: The Church Divided (*1 Corinthians 1–6*)

Session 4: Letters to Church Leaders

(*1–2 Timothy; Titus*)

### Unit 33: A Firm Foundation

Session 1: The Jerusalem Council (*Acts 15*)

Session 2: Paul's Second Journey (*Acts 15–18*)

Session 3: No Other the Gospel (*Galatians 1–3*)

Session 4: Paul Gave Hope (*1–2 Thessalonians*)

## Volume 12: All Things New

### Unit 34: Fight the Good Fight

Session 1: Paul's Third Journey (*Acts 18–21*)

Session 2: Paul Was Arrested (*Acts 21–23*)

Session 3: Together in Jesus (*Ephesians 2–3*)

Session 4: Running the Race (*Philippians 3*)

### Unit 35: Finishing Strong

Session 1: Paul Before Rulers (*Acts 24–26*)

Session 2: Paul's Shipwreck (*Acts 27–28*)

Session 3: Brothers in Christ (*Philemon*)

Session 4: Children of God (*1 John 2–3*)

Session 5: Defending the Faith (*Jude*)

### Unit 36: Come, Lord Jesus

Session 1: John's Vision of Jesus (*Revelation 1*)

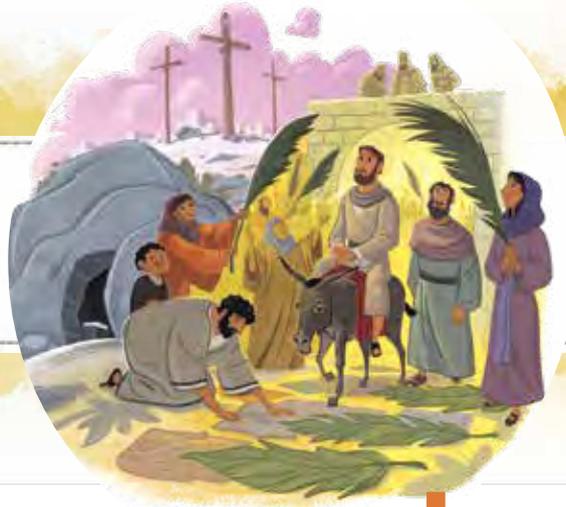
Session 2: Letters to the Seven Churches

(*Revelation 2–3*)

Session 3: Before the Throne (*Revelation 4–5*)

Session 4: Jesus Will Return (*Revelation 19–22*)

# Coming Next Volume!

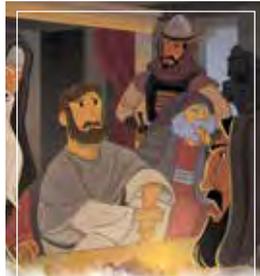


## Jesus the Savior

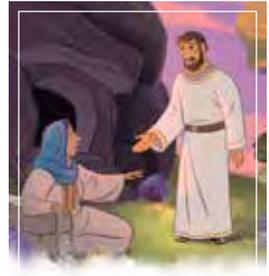
Jesus told parables, or stories, to help people understand what the kingdom of heaven is like. One day, these stories will become our reality when Jesus returns and reverses the curse of sin. As people began to turn against Jesus, He journeyed toward Jerusalem. Jesus continued to tell people that they needed to repent, and He prepared His followers for His death. Soon after Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, He was betrayed, arrested, tried, and crucified. The darkest moment of the gospel story became the brightest when Jesus rose from the dead to provide forgiveness for all of God's people. After Jesus rose from the dead, He spent 40 more days proving that He is alive and preparing His followers to continue His mission after He returned to heaven to be with His Father.



**Kingdom Parables**  
*Matthew 13*



**Jesus Was Questioned**  
*Matthew 22; Mark 12;  
Luke 20*



**Jesus' Resurrection**  
*Matthew 28; John 20*