

The Wicked Tenants

Babies and Toddlers

Bible Passage: Luke 15

Key Passage: Mark 6:34

Main Point: Jesus told stories about God.

The Bible Story (Watch this week's [IDC Kids Preschool Video](#))

Some people did not like Jesus. Jesus told them a story about a man who planted grapes in a vineyard. He let farmers take care of it. When it was time to gather the grapes, the owner sent his servants to the farmers to get his grapes. But the farmers hurt the servants. The owner sent more servants, but the farmers did the same thing. Finally, the owner sent his son. "They will respect my son," he said. But the farmers grabbed the son, threw him out, and killed him. Jesus asked, "What will the owner do to the farmers when he comes?" The people said, "They should be punished! The man should find workers who respect him." Jesus told them that the story was about God's plan to send Jesus.

Gospel Gems

Jesus told a story about God's plan.

People wanted to hurt Jesus.

God sent Jesus because He loves us.

Babies Activities

Look *in* the Bible

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to Matthew 21:33-45. Show the Bible story picture as you say the Gospel Gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage card.

Say: Jesus told stories about God. Jesus told a story about God's plan. God sent Jesus because He loves us. [*Pray.*]

Look *at* the Bible

Wrap a Bible or Bible storybook in paper and cover the paper with heart stickers. Open the Bible and tell the babies about God's plan.

Say: Jesus told stories about God. Jesus told a story about God's plan. God sent Jesus because He loves us.

Explore grapes

Place frozen grapes, artificial grapes, or purple water beads in a ziplock bag with water. Seal the bag with duct tape. Invite babies to squeeze and touch the grapes. Talk about the story.

Say: Jesus told stories about God. Jesus told a story about God's plan to send Jesus. God sent Jesus because He loves us.

Toddler Activities

Paint with watercolors

Provide coffee filters, small cups of water, paintbrushes, and watercolor paints. Invite toddlers to paint the coffee filters and set them aside to dry. When dry, glue to construction paper in the shape of a heart. Write the Main Point on each child's artwork.

Say: **Jesus told a story about God.** People wanted to hurt Jesus, but God sent Jesus because He loves us.

Pick grapes

Tape clear contact plastic sticky side out to a wall a toddler height. Cut purple pool noodles into 1-inch rings and stick them to the contact plastic in clusters. Invite toddlers to pick the “grapes.”

Say: **Jesus told a story about God.** God is like the owner of the grape vineyard. God sent Jesus because He loves us.

Explore a Parable box

Place items from the Bible story in the parable box, such as people figures, toy grapes, a sealed plastic jar of soil, and a plastic vine. Invite toddlers to handle items as you review the story.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** Jesus told people about God’s plan. God sent Jesus because He loves us.

Look at a vineyard

Use an electronic device to show videos of a grape harvest. As toddlers watch the video, talk about the Bible story.

Say: **Jesus told stories about God.** God is like the vineyard owner. God sent Jesus because He loves us.