September 3 9:00am & 11:00am

Three and Four Year Olds

PETER WORSHIPED JESUS (Luke 5)

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Peter realized that he was a sinner and that Jesus is God. He saw Jesus' kindness and followed Him. Jesus invites us to follow Him too. He shows grace and kindness to sinners who trust in Him.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How can we be saved? We are only saved by trusting in Jesus.

KEY PASSAGE: Without faith it is impossible to please God. Hebrews 11:6

Key Passage Phrase: Believe in God. Hebrews 11:6

LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Talk about fishing with the preschoolers. Ask them if they have ever been fishing or ever caught a fish. Tell a personal story if you have one. Hold up some of the fishing equipment. Ask preschoolers to identify the different types of gear. Demonstrate how to use some of it if possible.

SAY When we go fishing, we usually take special gear to help us catch fish. Fishermen in Bible times did not use fancy fishing poles. They fished using nets. Sometimes they caught a lot of fish; sometimes they did not catch any. Let's listen to a story in the Bible about Jesus and fishermen.

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time. How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY Our big picture question is, How can we be saved? The answer is, We are only saved by trusting in Jesus. When Peter met Jesus, he realized he was a sinner. He needed a Savior. Peter knew that Jesus is God, and he decided to follow Him. Just like Peter, we can trust in Jesus too. Jesus gives forgiveness to those who trust in Him.

4. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- 1. What did you like about the Bible story? (Preschoolers' answers will vary.)
- 2. Why did Jesus get into one of the boats? (Jesus sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.)
- 3. What happened that helped Peter know Jesus was the One he should follow? (When Jesus told Peter to cast his nets in deeper water, Peter and his friends caught so many fish the nets began to break. He knew Jesus is God.)
- 4. How can we follow God? (We can follow God by placing our faith and trust in Jesus, reading and obeying the Bible, His Word, worshiping God, and so on.)

5. How can we be saved? We are only saved by trusting in Jesus.

SAY Crowds followed Jesus everywhere He went. One day, Jesus got into one of the boats and asked a fisherman named Peter to push the boat a little out from the land. Then Jesus sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When He finished, Jesus asked Peter to move to deeper water and let down his nets over the side of the boat. Even though Peter and his friends had caught no fish the night before, Peter chose to obey. Peter and his friends caught so many fish the nets began to break. In that moment, Peter realized he was a sinner and Jesus is God's Son. He chose to follow Jesus that day. Just like Peter and his friends chose to follow Jesus, Jesus invites each of us to follow Him, as well.

5. PRAY

SAY God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to provide salvation from our sin. Thank You for the kindness You show us. Thank You for giving us grace, something good even when we do not deserve it. Help us place our trust in You. Just like Peter and his friends followed You, help us follow You. Amen.

ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE AS FEW AS ONE ACTIVITY OR AS MANY ACTIVITIES AS YOU WOULD LIKE)

PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the key passage marker at Hebrews 11:6. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage.

Write *f*, *a*, *i*, *t*, *h* on sticky notes, one letter per note. Hide each note in a designated place in the room. Invite preschoolers to find the hidden letters. Assist them in placing the letters in order to spell the word *faith*. Talk about the definition of faith with boys and girls.

SAY Faith means trusting God. Our Bible verse helps us remember you must have faith to please God. Peter and his friends showed faith in Jesus. They obeyed His instructions to fish in deeper water and let down their nets. They left everything to follow Him. Peter, James, and John left everything they had—their boats, their nets, their families—to follow Jesus. They had faith that Jesus is God's Son.

WATCH AND FOLLOW THE LEADER

Form a line of preschoolers. Designate the first child in line as the leader. Invite the leader to say, "Follow me," as she leads the children to do different motions and movements such as marching, waving hands above head, walking with hands on shoulders and taking small steps. Allow each child to have the opportunity to be the leader. Consider playing upbeat music as the group moves around the room.

SAY Peter and his friends chose to follow Jesus. They left everything they had to follow Him. Jesus invites us to follow Him too. When we trust in Jesus, He shows us grace and kindness. He gives us good things even when we do not deserve it. Following Jesus is the best decision you can make. How do you think we can follow Jesus? me with parents)

Lead preschoolers to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

SAY Jesus' miracles helped people and showed that He is the Son of God.

PLAY IN AND FISH FROM A BOAT

Use tape to make a large boat outline on the floor. Make it large enough for several children to sit inside. Invite preschoolers to sit in the boat outline and pretend to fish. Prompt the children to pretend to throw nets into the water, catch fish, and bring up the nets full of fish. Suggest preschoolers continue the activity as time allows.

SAY We pretended we caught fish. When Jesus finished teaching from a boat, He told Peter to let down his nets. Peter and his friends caught so many fish that their nets began to tear. They called out to fishermen in the other boat to come and help. Peter, James, and John were so amazed that they left everything to follow Jesus. Jesus invites us to follow Him, too. He shows grace and kindness to sinners who trust in Him just like Peter and his friends did.

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE (please send this home with parents)

Lead preschoolers to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

SAY Jesus invites us to follow Him. He shows grace and kindness to sinners who trust in Him.

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to Luke 4. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

PETER WORSHIPED JESUS

STORYTELLING TIPS

Sit in a boat: Tape a boat shape onto the floor and lead preschoolers to sit inside it as they listen to the story.

Gather around a net: Spread a fishing net on the floor. Invite preschoolers to sit around the net as you tell the Bible story.

One day, Jesus stood by a lake. Lots of people got together to listen to Jesus teach about God. They pushed close to hear what Jesus was saying. Jesus looked out and saw two boats at the edge of the lake. The fishermen were nearby, washing their nets.

Jesus got into one of the boats and asked a fisherman named Simon Peter to push the boat a little out from the land. Then Jesus sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When Jesus was done teaching, He told Peter to move the boat to deeper water and let down his nets to catch fish.

Peter said, "Master, we have been fishing all night long and did not catch anything. But I will do what You said."

So Peter and his friends—James and John—let down the nets. They caught so many fish that the nets began to rip. They called out to the fishermen in the other boat to come and help. Both boats were so full of fish that they began to sink. The fishermen were amazed.

Peter fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord! I am a sinful man!"

Jesus said, "Do not be afraid. From now on, you will gather people instead of fish." Then

Peter, James, and John brought the boats to the land, left everything, and followed Jesus.

Christ Connection: Peter realized that he was a sinner and that Jesus is God. He saw Jesus' kindness and followed Him. Jesus invites us to follow Him too. He shows grace and kindness to sinners who trust in Him.

DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

September 3 9:00am & 11:00am

Two Year Olds

PETER WORSHIPED JESUS (Luke 5)

CHRIST CONNECTION: God loves all people. He wants everyone who trusts in Jesus to love Him and love others.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How can we be saved? We are only saved by trusting in Jesus..

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Believe in God. Hebrews 11:6

LEARN

(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)

1. INTRODUCTORY GROUP TIME ACTIVITY: PLAY SIMON SAYS

Insert a child's name as "Simon" and play "Simon Says." For instance, "[child's name] says hop up and down." Repeat for different actions. Allow each toddler to call out commands. Any toddler who does an action that the leader did not say can sit out and cheer on the rest of the toddlers. Replay, choosing new leaders and allowing all toddlers to return to the game.

SAY Jesus spoke like someone who was in charge when He taught in the synagogue. The people were amazed when He healed people who were sick. Let's watch today's bible story to learn how Jesus' miracles helped people and showed that He is God's Son.

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

<u>How?</u> Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the key passage phrase marker at Hebrews 11:6. Invite a child to open your Bible to the marker. Say the key passage phrase aloud as you toss a ball in the air and catch it. Invite children to take turns tossing the ball in the air and catching it as they say the phrase.

ACTIVITIES

FOLLOW THE LEADER

Choose a volunteer to be the leader. Instruct the leader to make noises or movements as she leads the class around the room. Guide the class to mimic the leader as they walk around the room. Ensure each toddler has an opportunity to be the leader. Play as time allows.

SAY Jesus taught people about God. Jesus loves us and wants us to follow Him. Like we followed the leader here today, Jesus wants us to follow Him. Can you follow Jesus? Yes! You can follow Jesus.

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE (please send this home with parents)

Lead preschoolers to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

SAY Jesus invites us to follow Him. He shows grace and kindness to sinners who trust in Him.

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

One day, Jesus stood by a lake and taught people about God. While teaching, Jesus saw two boats and the fishermen nearby, washing their nets. Jesus got into one of the boats, sat down, and taught the people from the boat. When Jesus finished teaching, He told Peter to let down his nets to catch fish. So, Peter and his friends—James and John—put the nets into the water. They caught so many fish that the nets began to tear.

Peter and his friends called out to the fishermen in the other boat for help. Both boats were so full of fish that they began to sink. The fishermen were amazed. Peter, James, and John brought the boats to the land, left everything, and followed Jesus.

Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.