

October 29
9:00am & 11:00am
Three and Four Year Olds
JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT CHARACTER
MATTHEW 5

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Jesus taught about how to follow Him. People who trust in Jesus will be like Him and tell others about Him.

KEY PASSAGE: Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory ... for everything in the heavens and on earth belongs to you. 1 Chronicles 29:11

Key Passage Phrase: Jesus shows us what God is like. John 1:18

LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Cut **heart shapes from construction paper** and place them around the classroom. Make sure to have a shape for each child. Encourage preschoolers to find a heart and bring it to group time. Assist boys and girls as needed so that everyone is able to bring a heart to the group.

SAY When I see a heart, I think about love. Jesus said that we can be like God by loving everyone. Listen to the story to hear that Jesus taught the people about how to follow Him.

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. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the key passage marker at 1 Chronicles 29:11. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the verse aloud. Create motions for preschoolers to use as they say the key passage. (Possible motions: powerful [*show strong arms*]; heaven [*point up*]; earth [*point out and around*]) Use the key passage song video for inspiration.

SAY The name Lord is another name for God. God is great and powerful. What are ways you know God is great and powerful? Jesus is God's Son. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and lead others to know Him.

4. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY We have a new big picture question and answer this week. The question is, **What did Jesus teach when He was on earth?** The answer is, **Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.** We learned in our Bible story today that one day Jesus went up on a mountain. He sat down and began to teach about God's kingdom. Jesus taught people instructions on how they should live. We can find those instructions in the Bible.

5. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)
2. Who did the crowds of people want to hear? (*Jesus*)
3. Why did crowds of people follow Jesus? (*They wanted to learn from Him because He is God's Son.*)
4. What is something Jesus taught the people? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary and may include Jesus encouraged people to love and pray for all people, He taught them how to live, He taught about God's kingdom, He told the people to be a 'light in a dark world,' and He taught about what it means to follow Him.*)

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

SAY *Wherever Jesus went, crowds of people followed Him. They wanted to hear what He had to say. Jesus sat on a mountain, and a crowd of people gathered around Him. Jesus talked to the people about God's kingdom and about what it means to follow Him. He used the word blessed when telling the people how they should live and how God would bless them by the way they acted and treated others. He told the people to be a 'light in a dark world,' which means that others should be able to see God's love and goodness through their words, actions, and behaviors. He encouraged people to love and pray for all people, even their enemies who do not like them or who they do not like. Jesus taught about what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and lead others to know Him.*

6. **PRAY**

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have. Pray for them.

SAY *Lord, thank You for teaching us how we should live. Help us to make right choices and live in ways that please You. Help us to know how to show love to You and to others. Amen.*

ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE AS FEW AS ONE ACTIVITY OR USE ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES)

FOLLOW ME

Invite boys and girls to line up behind you. Instruct them to follow you around the classroom, doing exactly what you do. Walk, hop, or wave your arms as you travel through the room. Follow a path that zigzags around the classroom or circles through the different areas of the room. Give preschoolers the opportunity to lead the group as the other boys and girls follow them.

SAY *You did a great job following me and your friends around the classroom. Lots of people from many places followed Jesus around. One day, Jesus went up on a mountain. He sat down and began to teach about God's kingdom. Jesus taught about how to follow Him. People who trust in Jesus will be like Him and tell others about Him.*

SHOW LOVE

Encourage preschoolers to help you think of ways that they can show love to others. Examples may include helping a parent make a meal or clean the kitchen, singing a song to comfort a younger sibling, sharing a toy with a friend, drawing a picture for a grandparent, smiling or giving a high five to a friend, or obeying right away when a parent or teacher gives a direction. Write each idea down on a **piece of paper**. Mix the papers up and allow a preschooler to choose one. Read the idea aloud. Play out the scenario as a group.

SAY *You did a great job playing out how we can show love to others. We can show love to people in so many different ways. Jesus said that we should even love our enemies and pray for them. We can be like God by loving everyone. Who can you show love to?*

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

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, review the Christ Connection.

SAY *Jesus taught about how to follow Him. People who trust in Jesus will be like Him and tell others about Him.*

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to Matthew 5. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers..

JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT CHARACTER

STORYTELLING TIPS

Travel together: Keeping in line with your church's policies, take the class on a journey to a hill, stairs, or a stage. Tell the Bible story from that spot emphasizing that the crowds followed Jesus wherever He went.

Encourage friends: Explain that preschoolers will hear the word "blessed" many times in today's Bible story. The word blessed means to be happy and to honor a person with good words or actions. Encourage preschoolers to smile at a friend when hearing the word "blessed."

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. God makes the sun rise on both the good and the evil, and He causes rain to fall on both the righteous and unrighteous. If you only love those who love you, what reward will you get for that? Even people who do not know God do that. Be like God, your heavenly Father. He is perfect."

Christ Connection: Jesus taught about what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should live. People who trust in Jesus live to honor God and lead others to know 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.

October 29
9:00am & 11:00am
Two Year Olds

JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT CHARACTER

MATTHEW 5

CHRIST CONNECTION: People who trust in Jesus will be like Him.

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

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Lord, You are great and powerful. 1 Chronicles 29:11

LEARN

(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)

1. INTRODUCTORY GROUP TIME ACTIVITY

Suggest preschoolers pretend to climb a mountain as they come to group time. Pretend to reach and grab rocks on the mountain side as they climb. Invite children to sit and rest when they reach the group time area. Tell them that Jesus went on a mountain to teach people.

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

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)

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3. LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the key passage phrase marker at John 1:18. Invite a child to open your Bible to the marker.

SING THE KEY PASSAGE SONG

Sing to the tune "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

"Lord, You are great and powerful, powerful, powerful.

Lord, You are great and powerful. You help us to believe."

SAY *Jesus taught people about God's kingdom. Jesus' teaching helps us to trust God.*

ACTIVITIES

CHEER FOR THE RIGHT ANSWER

Guide toddlers to cheer if you say the right thing and to boo if you say the wrong thing. Use right and wrong phrases from the story. Phrases include "Blessed are the perfect, for they will be perfect" or "Jesus taught about opposites." Use facial expressions to guide toddlers to the right or wrong answer. Correct each wrong phrase with the right phrase from the Bible story.

SAY *Jesus taught about God's kingdom. Jesus said people who believe in Him are blessed. People who trust in Jesus will be like Him.*

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 *Where did Jesus go to teach? A mountain! People listened to Him because they wanted to learn from Him. What did Jesus teach about? God's kingdom! People who believe in Jesus are blessed. We show others what God is like by how we love those around us.*

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

Jesus went up a mountain to teach about God's kingdom. Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for God's kingdom belongs to them. Blessed are those who are sad because they will be comforted. Blessed are the humble, for the earth will be theirs. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what God says 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 you when people punish you for doing what is right, for God's kingdom belongs to you. You are the light of the world. Let your light shine so people will see you and praise God your Father."

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.