



ILLUMINATION  
STATION JOHN 8:12

VBS 2026

# 3S-PRE-K

Leader Guide

# SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH PARENTS



**1. God rules.** The Bible tells us God created everything, including you and me, and He is in charge of everything. (Genesis 1:1; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-17)



**2. We sinned.** Since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



**3. God provided.** God sent His Son Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9)



**4. Jesus gives.** Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18)



**5. We respond.** Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus. (John 14:6; Romans 10:9-10,13)

# MAKE YOUR VBS GLOW!

## ENLIGHTEN YOURSELF

- Read the Scripture passage and leader devotion for each day. Pray that God will speak to you through His Word. Teach from the overflow of what God shows you.
- Pray for the kids you will teach. Pray for yourself and the other leaders at VBS. Ask people to pray for you.

## TOOLS FOR A BRIGHTER LOOK

- Use these curriculum pieces.
- This leader guide (9798384537441)  
The guide contains plans for an opening and a closing group time as well as Bible-learning activities. It does not include plans for rotation activities. (1 guide per teacher)
- *VBS 2026 3s–Pre-K Leader Pack* (9798384537458)  
The leader pack includes Bible story pictures, posters, cards, and other fun teaching items. A music CD is also included. (1 pack per classroom)
- *VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book* (9798384537014)  
This book can be used throughout the week to reinforce Bible learning. Activities are also included for families to do at home. (1 per child)
- *VBS 2026 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack* (9798384537502)  
This pack contains teaching plans for missions, music, recreation, and crafts. (at least 1 pack per church)

## DETAILS TO HELP YOUR WEEK GLEAM

- Find out how long your actual teaching time will be and where you will travel for each rotation activity. (Look at page 4 to plan your schedule.)
- Determine how many children you will have.
- Read through the teaching plans and highlight what you want to include.
- Meet with your other teachers to plan each daily session. Make a list of the supplies you will need.
- Organize and prepare items from the leader pack. Instructions are printed on the bottom of each pack item. Some pack items are printed on the front and back—read the instructions before cutting anything!
- Gather needed supplies. Some VBS directors will gather supplies for you. Check to be sure how your church does this.

## ENJOY THE GLOW

- Relax and enjoy building relationships with your kids.
- Be flexible. Adjust your plans to make this the best experience possible for you and your preschoolers. If your kids get restless, move on to the next activity. Remember that all Bible-learning activities may be repeated throughout the day or week.

## LET HIS LIGHT SHINE THROUGH YOU

- The ultimate goal is to share the love of Jesus with these little ones and their families. Make sure your church has correct contact information for each child in your class.
- Look for ways to stay connected with the children you taught. (See page 8 for a few ideas.)

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# SHINE THE LIGHT ON JESUS



Culture claims to know about Jesus, but many people are in the dark about who He really is. Some might see Jesus as just a person from history or a good man or a good teacher—but He is more than that! This summer, VBS will shine a light on the truth of who Jesus really is.

Meet us at Illumination Station for the brightest week of the year. Focus on Jesus at Spotlight Bible Study and bask in the colorful glow of sunlight streaming in at Suncatcher Recreation. Twirl in the glittering refracted light of Mirror Ball Music and pass through strands of twinkling lights on the way to Kaleidoscope Crafts. Turn it all the way up for Neon Snacks and bring it all the way down for Glow-in-the-dark Missions. Kids will explore all the ways light brightens, illuminates, reflects, and reveals while discovering that Jesus is the light who brings hope to a dark world! Like the disciples, kids will be challenged to answer Jesus’ question, “Who do you say that I am?” They will discover it’s not a matter of opinion. Jesus is who Scripture says He is—the perfect, proven, and powerful Son of God.

Light up your summer at Illumination Station and shine a light on Jesus!

## DAY 1

### JESUS IS GOD’S PROMISED SON

**Bible Story:** Jesus Asked Who People Thought He Was

**Today’s Point:** Jesus is God’s promised Son.

#### Rotation Activities

**Music:** “Illumination Station”; “Shine the Light”; “Who Is Jesus?”; “Light of the World”

**Missions:** Play Same and Different; Roll a Globe; Pretend to Make Food and Share a Snack; Mission Project

**Crafts:** Pool Noodle Painting; Jesus Rocks; Dazzling Kaleidoscope; Craft Stick Lantern

**Recreation:** Mystery Pass Relay

## DAY 2

### JESUS IS GOD’S PERFECT SON

**Bible Story:** The Baptism of Jesus

**Today’s Point:** Jesus is God’s perfect Son.

#### Rotation Activities

**Music:** “Light of the World”; “Bright In Me”; “I Can Be Like Jesus”; “Shine the Light”

**Missions:** Make an Animal Park; Decorate a Prayer Reminder; Feed People and Take Care of Children; Mission Project

**Crafts:** Salt Painting; Baptism Scene; Tie-dye Suncatchers; Light Bulb Straw Painting

**Recreation:** The Perfect Catch

## DAY 3

### JESUS IS THE POWERFUL SON OF GOD

**Bible Story:** Jesus Performed Miracles

**Today’s Point:** Jesus is the powerful Son of God.

#### Rotation Activities

**Music:** “I Can Be Like Jesus”; “Things No One Else Can Do”; “Who Is Jesus?”; “Bright In Me”

**Missions:** Create a Village; Search for Goats; Shine the Light; Mission Project

**Crafts:** Fish Bible Marker; Basket of Food; Constellation Cube; String Painting

**Recreation:** Gathering Fish and Loaves

## DAY 4

### JESUS IS THE PROVEN SON OF GOD

**Bible Story:** Jesus Died and Rose to Life

**Today’s Point:** Jesus is alive!

#### Rotation Activities

**Music:** “I Can Be Like Jesus”; “Light of the World”; “Things No One Else Can Do”; “Who Is Jesus?”

**Missions:** Look at a United States Map; Build Houses; Find the Church; Mission Project

**Crafts:** Surprise Message; Build a Scene; Laced Cross; Empty Tomb Silhouette

**Recreation:** Light Storm

## DAY 5

### JESUS IS GOD’S PLAN FOR FORGIVENESS

**Bible Story:** Peter Preached About Jesus

**Today’s Point:** Jesus is God’s plan for forgiveness.

#### Rotation Activities

**Music:** “Illumination Station”; “Things No One Else Can Do”; “Bright In Me”; “Shine the Light”

**Missions:** Set Up a Church and Restaurant; Play Hot and Cold; Plant Grass Seeds; Mission Project

**Crafts:** Craft Stick Puzzle; Glitter Art; Illumination Station Magnet; Scratch Art Picture Frame

**Recreation:** Listen and Move

*Recreation activities for theme and free play are also available to choose from for each day.*

### Bible Verse

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”  
*John 8:12* (paraphrase)

### Motto

Jesus is the Light of the world.

### Christ Connection

Our sin keeps us from fully knowing the truth about who Jesus really is. Jesus came as the light to shine in a world darkened by sin. Jesus’ birth, life, death, and resurrection show us who He really is—the perfect and powerful Son of God who came to be our Savior.

### Level of Biblical Learning

Jesus

Jesus is God’s Son.

The *Levels of Biblical Learning*® is a tool that reflects levels of understanding at each age that follow how God designed children to learn. For more information visit [lifeway.com/lobl](http://lifeway.com/lobl).

# SCHEDULE AND ROTATION OPTIONS



Consider the options below. Feel free to mix and match, rearrange, lengthen, shorten, or omit any elements as needed. Tailor your group’s schedule to best suit your time frame, preferences, and overall VBS schedule.

## ACTIVITY OPTIONS

- Plan three (or more) activities. Allow kids to move freely from activity to activity.
- Select two (or more) activities to occur simultaneously. Send a group of kids to each activity and swap after 10 minutes.
- Plan two (or more) activities. Guide all kids to complete the first activity and then move as a group to the next activity.
- For shorter VBS schedules, shorten or omit a rotation activity, intro activity, or closing group time.
- For longer VBS schedules, plan all four activities plus the bonus activity and increase the allotted total time for Bible-learning activities.

## SAMPLE SCHEDULE (3-HOUR VBS)

Intro Activities	10 min.
Group Time	20 min.
Bible-learning Activities	40 min.
Rotation Activities	100 min.*
Mirror Ball Music	25 min.
Glow-in-the-dark Missions	25 min.
Kaleidoscope Crafts	25 min.
Suncatcher Recreation	15 min.
Neon Snacks	10 min.
Closing Group Time	10 min.

*The suggested time for rotations includes transition time.*

## ROTATION OPTIONS

Work with your VBS director to structure a plan for rotation activities. Teaching plans for rotation activities are found in the *VBS 2026 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack* (9798384537502).

## SAMPLE ROTATION PLANS

- **ROTATE OUT**
  - Leaders accompany kids to each rotation, stay with them during rotation activities, then lead them back to their main room for closing group time.
- **ROTATE IN**
  - Leaders are enlisted to come to the preschool rooms and lead rotation activities. After teaching the 20-minute session, rotation leaders then move to another classroom.
- **SELF-CONTAINED CLASSROOM**
  - Children and leaders remain in the same room for all activities.

Look at your space, your leaders, and your preschoolers to determine what works best for your church. You may choose a combination of any or all of the options above.

## CREATE YOUR OWN SCHEDULE




# MAKE VBS GREAT FOR ALL KIDS

Your VBS is filled with kids—kids with different abilities, kids who have never been to church, kids who come maybe 3–4 times a year, and of course, kids you see every Sunday! With such a wide array of kids, the challenge is how to make sure that all kids feel welcomed and engaged. Here are a few ways to do just that!

## NEW KIDS AT VBS

- **Play name games daily.** Hearing that someone knows his name can help a new kid feel at ease. Helping him make friends who also know his name is even better.
- **Explain expectations.** Take time to talk about what the day will look like, what rotations kids will go to, or how they will be moving around campus.
- **Be patient with kids who don't know "church" rules,** such as staying quiet while someone is praying, focusing during Bible story time, following safety guidelines, and so forth.
- **Don't embarrass any child.** Speak one-on-one when guidance is necessary. (For instance: instead of calling inappropriate language "bad words," just remind kids that "we do not say those words here.")
- **Stay away from "church-ese."** Speak their language. Define church words often. Some won't know who Jesus is, what sin is, what it means to be born again, or what it means to be baptized.
- **Teach Bible skills** as if no one has ever heard them so a child doesn't feel like the odd one out. This is especially true for older kids. Many will not know how to find a specific Bible book or verse. Some may not even truly know what a Bible is.
- **Remind kids of details.** Take time daily to remind kids of what was learned during previous sessions. This will help new kids as well as those who might struggle with remembering from day to day.

## KIDS WITH DIFFERENT ABILITIES

**Make environmental changes so that kids with special needs are able to complete the task.**

- Move floor activities to a tabletop so kids with mobility issues or in wheelchairs can easily participate.
- Increase the font size of handouts or posters to improve visibility for preschoolers with vision limitations.

- Use a clear color contrast for print such as a black background with white print or a white background with black print.
- Adapt activities to allow students the opportunity to participate with a level of achievement.
- Provide pool noodles to extend reach for kids with limited mobility to reach things like posters on the wall (point to the \_\_\_) or to use in simple tag games, like "Duck, Duck, Goose."
- Offer options that would include the child, such as being the timekeeper or scorekeeper.
- Provide a large clip (like a chip bag clip) to aid in holding cards.

### Modify content for the students.

- Provide a visual schedule (icons or pictures to represent the day's sequence of events). Hang this on the focal wall or another easily visible location.
- Use picture cues whenever possible for learning and review.

### Provide a buddy for a child who requires assistance because of a disability.

- A buddy can assist one-on-one with the child.
- A buddy can monitor safety at all times for the child.
- A buddy can reteach or redirect during a Bible story or activity.
- A buddy can make accommodations to the environment for the child as needed (such as moving chairs out of the way for a wheelchair to have table access).

Special Needs Adaptations by  
Peggy Howard



### LOOK FOR THIS SYMBOL

for special needs adaptations of various activities.



# SPOTLIGHT ON 3s-PRE-K

## ACTIVE

- Plan activities that allow kids to be up and moving.
- Help kids focus their energy into a learning experience.
- Use varied methods of teaching, even during group time.

## LITERAL MINDED

- Use simple, concrete language.
- Don't use phrases such as "give your heart to Jesus," "open your ears," or "zip your lips."
- Use pictures to boost understanding.

## CURIOUS

- Provide opportunities for hands-on experiences.
- Encourage preschoolers to discover answers on their own.
- Be ready for a lot of questions; but understand it's okay to say, "I don't know."

## SELF-FOCUSED

- Provide opportunities for success.
- Help a child focus on strengths, not weaknesses.
- Encourage development of social skills through play and interaction among preschoolers.

## HAVE SHORT ATTENTION SPANS

- Provide several short activities that encompass different learning styles.
- Be flexible.
- Keep instructions short and simple.

## CREATIVE

- Encourage imagination through free play activities.
- Provide resources to encourage self-expression.
- When making crafts, allow opportunities for creativity on the finished project.

## NEED LIMITS

- Provide preschoolers security by setting simple but clear limits.
- State expectations positively. Instead of saying, "Don't run," say, "Walk."
- State consequences of actions, but redirect behavior when possible.

## SENSITIVE

- Treat all children fairly.
- Show respect.
- Don't make comparisons between preschoolers.





## EQUIP YOURSELF FOR SUCCESS

- Familiarize yourself with the contents of this guide, the *3s–Pre-K Leader Pack* (9798384537458), the *Music for Preschoolers CD* (included in the leader pack), and the *Preschool Activity Book* (9798384537014).
- Prepare all leader pack items according to the instructions on each item.
- Get together with the other leaders in your room before VBS, go through the leader guide and divide up responsibilities. This will keep any one leader from bearing the full weight of planning and will help create an environment where both learning and fun can take place!
- Set up the room for VBS and prepare activities ahead of time each day. At the end of VBS, put away all supplies and return the room to its original arrangement.
- Remember that you are an example of what God is like to a child. As you talk with and listen to kids, play alongside them, give appropriate hugs, protect them, help them work through challenges, and meet their basic needs, you are demonstrating God’s love in practical, tangible ways.

## PRINTABLE RESOURCES

These printable leader helps can be downloaded at: [vbs.lifeway.com](http://vbs.lifeway.com) under the Resources tab.

- 3s–Kindergarten Planning Chart
- Child Information Sheet
- Hygiene Tips
- Allergy Alert

## AUDIO RESOURCES

You can find audio resources on the *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers CD* (9798384537540) in the leader pack or they can be purchased for download at [lifeway.com](http://lifeway.com).

## BE SAFE!

- Familiarize yourself with your church’s policies and observe all safety and security procedures.
- Conduct background screenings and check references of every volunteer prior to participating in VBS. (See the Administrative Guide for more information.)
- Follow your church’s sign-in procedures as parents drop off their children. Obtain a completed “Child Information Sheet” and an emergency number from parents. Pass along any special/allergy information to other leaders.
- Sign-in sheets and security wristbands, tags, or cards are good ways to ensure safe and appropriate release to parents/guardians.
- Follow the two-person rule at all times. Make sure there are always at least two adult leaders, even if only one child is present.
- Try to maintain the recommended leader/child ratio of one leader for every four children.
- Allow only two preschoolers of the same gender in the restroom at one time. A leader should supervise at the door, while remaining in full view of another leader. A leader should never be alone in the restroom with a child.



If you are using lighting sources such as battery-operated tea lights, spotlights, or projectors, please check for potential choking hazards and heat elements that could burn the skin or eyes or be a fire hazard. Be cautious using flashing lights as they may trigger certain medical conditions such as seizures, migraines, and so on. Avoid using strobe lights.

## TIPS FOR MOVING GROUPS OF KIDS

- Locate rotation sites close to each other, such as next door or just across the hallway.
- Maintain appropriate leader/child ratios (1:4) while traveling to and from rotations.
- Enlist one leader to lead the line and another leader to walk at the end of the line.
- Use the buddy system (friends holding hands, walking side by side) to keep kids together.
- Keep an accurate daily attendance list with you as you travel to make sure everyone is accounted for at all times.

## MEMORY MAKERS

Keep the light shining brightly on truths about Jesus as preschoolers add keepsakes to the *VBS 2026 Memory Maker* (9798384538141). Kids will receive a daily tag with an icon to remind them of a simple, essential truth from each day’s Bible story. Additional reminders may be offered by rotation leaders to help kids recall these truths and other fun experiences from VBS. Because they’ll be used often, keep your Memory Makers close by for quick and easy access wherever your class goes.



# KEEP SHINING HIS LIGHT

- 1.** Encourage parents to use the *VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book* (9798384537014) to engage their children in spiritual conversations at home. This book provides a summary of each Bible story from VBS and a family activity to help parents and children personally apply each day's Bible truth.
- 2.** Provide *VBS 2026 Parent Guides* (9798384538745) for all parents.
- 3.** Send notes, call, or visit each child after VBS. Consider taking a small gift such as the *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers CD* (9798384537540) for children to enjoy all of their favorite VBS songs for years to come!
- 4.** Invite families to attend church events, including weekly activities as well as special events.
- 5.** Partner with leaders from small groups who could come alongside these preschoolers and their young families.



# DAY 1

## JESUS IS GOD'S PROMISED SON



### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Asked Who People Thought He Was  
*Matthew 16:13-20*

### BIBLE VERSE

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."  
*John 8:12* (paraphrase)

### TODAY'S POINT

Jesus is God's promised Son.

**SPOTLIGHT QUESTION:** Who is Jesus?  
Jesus is the Messiah, the promised Son of God.

1

### LEADER DEVOTION

Think for a moment about a teacher who significantly impacted and brightened up your life. You may have identified this teacher because of how he or she made you feel loved, valued, and understood. This week, you have an opportunity to be that kind of teacher—one who builds meaningful relationships with children, helping them feel loved and accepted in ways they may have never experienced before. Take a moment now to stop and pray, asking God to use you to make an eternal impact on the lives of the children you teach. Continue to do so again each day of VBS.

Beyond building relationships, one often-overlooked trait of exceptional teachers is their ability to ask great questions. Great questions captivate attention, inspire deep thinking, and foster renewed curiosity and wonder. They can also reveal gaps in understanding, provide opportunities for assessment, or highlight a student's mastery of a subject.

Jesus exemplified this trait as a master teacher. His use of engaging questions was a hallmark of His teaching. Consider these examples from the New Testament, where Jesus asked thought-provoking and soul-searching questions:

- "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" (Mark 4:40)
- "Why do you break God's commandment because of your tradition?" (Matthew 15:3)
- "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and don't do the things I say?" (Luke 6:46)
- "Do you want to get well?" (John 5:6)

Let's shine the spotlight on two of the most significant and revealing questions Jesus ever asked His disciples. After spending time with His disciples in a boat, they traveled to Caesarea Philippi—a place known for its pagan gods. Against this backdrop of pagan influence, Jesus pressed His disciples for answers to these two questions:

- Who do people say that the Son of Man is?
- But you, who do you say that I am?

Scripture records the disciples answering the first question, but the second question is responded to specifically by Peter. Peter declared, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Have you ever wondered why Peter was the first disciple to proclaim Jesus as the Messiah? Surely, there was a more faithful and less controversial disciple who could have spoken up rather than the flawed and impulsive Peter.

Jesus knew Peter's weaknesses. He knew Peter would deny Him three times, yet He washed Peter's feet anyway. (See John 13.) He knew Peter would fall asleep in the garden of Gethsemane, yet He blessed Peter when God revealed to him that Jesus was the Messiah. (See Matthew 16; 26.) Jesus knew every detail of Peter's story—his failures, doubts, and triumphs—and He still chose to love and use Peter in powerful ways.

Jesus did not write Peter off as unreliable or deem him unworthy of being used for His purposes. Instead, He entrusted Peter with the opportunity to preach at Pentecost and lead His church. (See Acts 2.) Peter's story is a reminder that God sees potential where others see character flaws, and He calls us to love, lead, and serve in ways that often do not make sense to others.

### Illuminate Your Heart

- Jesus asks each of us the same question. Take this opportunity to answer it for yourself. "But you, who do you say I am?"
- It may be easy to make a declaration of words, but it is much harder to live out our belief in Jesus as our Messiah. Peter certainly struggled to walk out the words he declared. Thank God for His redemptive love for each of us and ask Him to use you this week to proclaim the good news of Jesus to each boy and girl in your care.

# INTRO ACTIVITIES

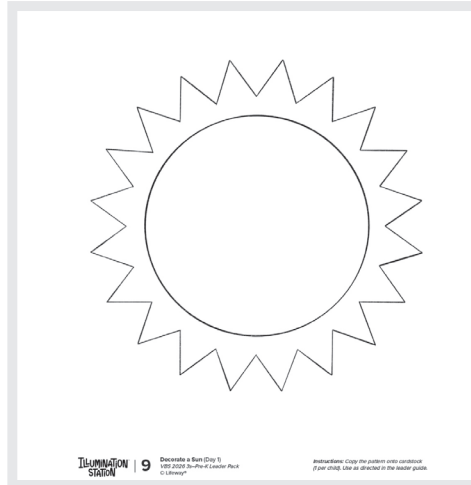


## ROOM PREPARATION

- Prepare pack items (1, 6–15) according to the instructions printed on each item.
- Glue or tape all five “Focal Wall Add-ons” (pack item 7) to the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6) poster. Attach the poster to the wall in your Group Time area.
- Gather a *VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book* (9798384537014) (1 per child). If it is not possible to provide one for each child, purchase a few for the room to use during VBS.
- See page 46 for decorating ideas that will enhance learning.

## DECORATE A SUN TIP

Hang up the finished artwork to display for the day.



## DECORATE A SUN

**Supplies:** “Sun Template” (1 per child) (pack item 9), heavyweight paper, crayons or washable markers, glue sticks, yellow and orange tissue paper squares

- Print a “Sun Template” (pack item 9) for each child on heavyweight paper. Distribute the supplies to each child.
- Guide preschoolers to color their suns.
- Demonstrate how to glue tissue paper squares onto the suns using a glue stick. Encourage preschoolers to glue the tissue paper squares inside the middle of the sun.
- Invite preschoolers to be creative with their designs.
- Say: “Your suns are all amazing! God made the sun to shine brightly in the sky. During this week at VBS, we will be learning all about who Jesus is. One of the names Jesus called Himself is the Light of the world!”

## LEARN A NAME

**Supplies:** No supplies needed

- Invite preschoolers to sit in a circle.
- Say: “We get to have so much fun together today at Illumination Station! Let’s get to know each other by learning everyone’s name.”
- Stand up, say your name, and create a movement for the group to do while kids repeat your name back to you.
- Invite the preschooler to your right to stand up and create a movement for the group to repeat while saying his name. Be prepared to offer suggestions for hand movements such as pretending to be a ballerina or to bat a ball.
- Repeat this activity until each child in the circle has been able to have a turn.
- Say: “This week at VBS, we will learn about who Jesus is.”



## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION LEARN A NAME

If a child is in a wheelchair, guide her to raise her arm or hand. If a child is nonverbal, provide a premade nameplate for him to raise when it is his turn.



## SEE TYPES OF LIGHT

- Invite kids to gather and sit.
- Say: "There are many things that shine with light! What are some things that light up? (Allow preschoolers to answer.) Things that light up help us see!"
- Display each of the "Light Source Pictures" (pack item 10) one at a time and say the name of each one.
- Tell preschoolers that you are going to show the cards again. This time, they should raise their hands when they see the picture with the brightest light.
- Show all of the lights again, one at a time.
- Say: "All of these things give us light and help us see. Today we are going to hear a Bible story about someone who helps us see and know what God is like."

## INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

- Give each child and leader his or her sticker name tag to wear (or call attention to the name tags they are already wearing). As you distribute stickers, make a remark such as, "Your name is Mallory" or "People call you Max." End with putting on your own name tag and asking, "Who do people say I am?" (Allow kids to respond.)

## TELL THE BIBLE STORY

- Show the extra four name tags and read them aloud. Challenge preschoolers to listen for these words in the Bible story. Hold up each name tag as noted below.
- Open the Bible to Matthew 16 and tell the Bible story.

## GROUP TIME PREP AND SUPPLIES

- Bible
- "Focal Wall" (pack item 6)
- "Focal Wall Add-ons" (pack item 7)
- "Bible Verse Poster" (pack item 8)
- "Light Source Pictures" (pack item 10)
- "Game Cube Questions" (pack items 11a-f)
- Giant Inflatable Game Cube* (9781087779812)
- VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers* (from leader pack)
- VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book*
- VBS 2026 Memory Makers* (1 per child) (9798384538141)
- Tap light
- Tape
- Flashlight
- VBS 2026 Sticker Name Tags* (9798384538301)
  - Write each leader's and child's name on a sticker name tag. Use four more name tags to write *Jesus*, *John*, *prophet*, and *God's Son* on them, one name per name tag.
  - Insert "Game Cube Questions" (pack items 11a-f) in the *Giant Inflatable Game Cube* slots. If a game cube is unavailable, use a square cardboard box and attach a question to each side.



## JESUS ASKED WHO PEOPLE THOUGHT HE WAS

*Matthew 16:13-20*

One day, Jesus (*Show name tag.*) asked His disciples (helpers) a question.

"Who do people say I am?" Jesus asked.

The disciples told Jesus that people had different ideas about who Jesus was. Many people thought Jesus could be a prophet named John (*Show name tag.*) who had died. They thought maybe John had come back to life. A prophet was someone who told people special messages from God. Jesus was more special than even a prophet. (*Show name tag.*)

Jesus asked His disciples, "But who do you say that I am?"

Peter, one of the disciples, answered, "You are God's Son." (*Show name tag.*)

Jesus said Peter could only know this because God had helped Peter know.

Jesus said that Peter would tell people about Jesus.

Who is Jesus? Jesus is God's promised Son.





## TRANSITION TO BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Describe each Bible-learning activity in the room today.
- Use the flashlight to spotlight one or two kids to choose an activity. Continue until all kids have moved to activities.



## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION REPEAT THE BIBLE VERSE

Provide a tap light for each preschooler to press when she hears the word *light*.

## REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- Invite preschoolers to stand together in a circle.
- Give the *Giant Inflatable Game Cube* to a preschooler. Allow her to toss the cube in the circle.
- Read aloud the review question that is facing up when the cube lands. Answer the question as a group.
- Direct her to toss the cube to another child.
- Repeat until all of the questions have been asked. If the cube lands on a question that has already been answered, turn the cube to an unanswered question.

## REPEAT THE BIBLE VERSE

- Open the Bible to John 8:12. Point to and read the words on the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8).
- Invite preschoolers to repeat the Bible verse slowly with you as you pass the tap light around the circle. With each word that is said, the tap light will be passed to the next preschooler in the circle. The child holding the light when the group says, “Light” will press on the light. The child holding the light when “John 8:12” is said will press off the light. Continue until the light has been passed around the circle several times.
- Say: “Jesus said He is the Light of the world. That means that Jesus helps us see and know what God is like.”

## PLAY AND MOVE TO MUSIC

- Play and sing “Light of the World.” Demonstrate some of the motions as preschoolers move to the song.
- Suggest they follow along with your motions as you play the song.

## FOCUS ON THE POINT

- Point to the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6). Invite a child to lift up the Day 1 flap.
- Say: “Jesus is God’s promised Son. God promised to send His Son, and He did. Jesus is God’s Son.”
- Pray and thank God for Jesus, His promised Son.

## MAKE A MEMORY

- Turn to page 2 in the Activity Book. Complete the activity together.
- Show the Day 1 Memory Maker and bag. Tell children they will collect a tag each day to help them remember what they have learned at VBS.
- Distribute Day 1 tags. Point out the question mark on the tag. Tell kids that the question mark can remind them that Jesus asked His disciples who people said He was.
- Say Today’s Point: Jesus is God’s promised Son.
- Lead kids to add the Day 1 tags to their bags. Collect them before transitioning to other activities.

# BIBLE—LEARNING ACTIVITIES



## DISCOVER WITH SHAVING CREAM

**Supplies:** Bible, “Shaving Cream Picture” (pack item 12, 1 per child), gallon ziplock bags, shaving cream, clear packing tape, crayons or markers

- Fill gallon ziplock bags (1 per child) three quarters of the way full with shaving cream. Seal the bag closed. Fold over a strip of clear packing tape across the top of the bag to secure the bag closed.
- Encourage preschoolers to color the “Shaving Cream Pictures” (pack item 12).
- Place the pictures on the table. Lay the shaving cream bags on top of the pictures.
- Invite the kids to move the shaving cream around in their bags to see different parts of their pictures.
- Say: “Jesus asked His disciples who people thought He was. Some people believed things about Jesus that were not true, but Peter knew that Jesus is God’s promised Son.”
- Open your Bible to Matthew 16:15-16 and read the verses aloud.

### EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Allow preschoolers to trade places with a friend and put their shaving cream bags over that friend’s picture to explore. Be sure names are written on the pictures so they do not get mixed up.

### \*KID CONNECTION

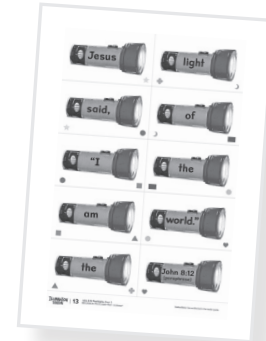
I can know that Jesus is God’s promised Son.

## FIND THE FLASHLIGHTS

**Supplies:** Bible, “John 8:12 Flashlights” (pack item 13), “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8)

**Extend:** flashlights (1 per child)

- Hide the “John 8:12 Flashlights” (pack item 13) around the room in clear sight.
- Open the Bible to John 8:12 and read the paraphrased version aloud while also pointing to the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8).
- Invite preschoolers to search the room for the flashlight cards hidden around them and bring them to the center of the room when found.
- Assist preschoolers by helping put the Bible verse words in their correct order. Point out the shapes on the flashlights to help kids lay them out correctly.
- Repeat the verse together.
- Say: “Jesus is God’s promised Son. He came to help people know about God.”



### EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Hide the cards again and provide real flashlights for each child to use as they search for the Bible verse cards.
- Explain: “One important rule we have with flashlights is that we do not shine lights into people’s eyes or faces.”

### \*KID CONNECTION

I can say a Bible verse about Jesus.

# Bible—LEARNING ACTIVITIES



## BONUS ACTIVITY

Roll-a-Cube

- ❑ “Roll-a-Cube” (pack item 14)
- ❑ Scissors
- ❑ Tape
- ❑ Flashlight
- ❑ *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers*

- Assemble the “Roll-a-Cube” (pack item 14) as directed on the cube.
- Say: “We will move around to the music. When I shine the flashlight on your feet, you will roll the cube. I will read what it says. Then, we will all do what it says together!”
- Play “Who Is Jesus?” and allow kids to move around the room to the music.
- Shine a flashlight randomly at a preschooler’s feet. Pass the cube to the child and allow her to roll it.
- Read the directions aloud and follow the directions together as a group.
- Repeat until all directions have been completed.

## TRANSITION TO ROTATIONS

- Guide kids to line up to move to rotations. Place a leader at the front and back of the line for safety.
- Take a list of children’s names with you for emergency info and check at each rotation to account for each child.
- Suggest that kids walk on tiptoe and pretend to shine a flashlight.

## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION DESIGN NAME CARDS

If a child does not want to place his finger on the ink pad, provide clear and latex free plastic gloves or let him decorate with crayons, markers, or stickers.

## EXPLORE A LIGHT BOX

**Supplies:** “Light Letters” (pack item 15), 8-by-10-inch foam sheets, dull pencils, cardboard box, utility knife (adult-use only), flashlights or other battery-powered lights, crayons **Extend:** tissue paper squares, glue sticks



- Prior to the session, copy “Light Letters” (pack item 15) for each child to have a template. Place the letters on top of a foam sheet and use a dull pencil to punch holes in the premarked circles on the letters.
- Cut an 8-by-4½-inch hole on the top of the cardboard box. Place flashlights or other battery-powered lights in the box.
- Give each child a copy of “Light Letters” and explain that the letters S, O, N spell *Son*. Jesus is God’s Son.
- Encourage kids to color the letters. As kids finish coloring, show them how to lay their letters on top of the box. Light will shine through the letters, illuminating the word *Son*.
- Say: “When you see the light shining through the holes on your paper, you can remember who Jesus is. He is God’s promised Son!”

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Provide multi-colored tissue paper squares for preschoolers to glue to the backs of their “Light Letters” (pack item 15) for different colors of light to shine through.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I can learn about who Jesus is.

## DESIGN NAME CARDS

**Supplies:** large white index cards or white paper squares, marker, washable neon stamp pads, hand wipes, *VBS 2026 Theme Stickers* (9798384538158), *VBS 2026 Sticky Foam Shapes* (9798384538134) **Extend:** *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers*

- Write each child’s name on an index card.
- Invite the children to decorate around their names by pressing fingertips in the neon stamp pads and making designs around the names.
- Provide *VBS 2026 Theme Stickers* and *VBS 2026 Sticky Foam Shapes* for boys and girls to add to their name cards.
- Comment: “I can know who you are by reading your name. In today’s Bible story, some people were not sure who Jesus was. Peter knew exactly who Jesus is, though. Jesus is God’s promised Son.”

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Collect the name cards when preschoolers are finished.
- Direct kids to form a circle and distribute a name card to each child. Lead kids to pass their cards around the circle as you play the song “Who Is Jesus?”
- Randomly stop the music and call a child’s name. Instruct her to hold up the name card to show the group. That child will stand and say, “Who is Jesus?”
- Lead the group to answer, “He is the promised Son of God.”
- Play several rounds as time allows.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I can remember that Jesus is God’s Son.

# CLOSING GROUP TIME

**Supplies:** Bible, “Bible Story Picture 1” (pack item 1), *VBS 2026 Glitter Beach Ball* (9798384539810), glow sticks, sticky notes, flashlight, *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers*, beach ball

## PLAY A GAME

- Invite preschoolers to stand in a circle.
- Pass the beach ball to a preschooler, and invite her to say the first word of Today’s Point: Jesus is God’s promised Son.
- Instruct the preschooler to pass the beach ball to the person on her right.
- Encourage the next preschooler to say the next word of Today’s Point and pass the beach ball.
- Repeat until each child has participated and Today’s Point has been fully stated.

## SING THE BIBLE VERSE

- Open the Bible to John 8:12. Read the Bible verse paraphrase aloud.
- Lead children to say the verse with you.
- Give each child an activated glow stick.
- Play and sing “Light of the World” as children wave their glow sticks to the beat of the music. Collect the glow sticks when the song is over.

## RECALL THE BIBLE STORY

- Lay the covered “Bible Story Picture 1” (pack item 1) on the floor in front of the children. Tell the children that they can uncover the picture and think about the Bible story.
- Give the flashlight to a preschooler and remind her not to shine lights into people’s eyes or faces. Guide her to shine the light on one of the sticky notes. Remove that note and talk about what children see.
- Ask: “What do you think this shows about the Bible story? Can we tell what this is yet?”

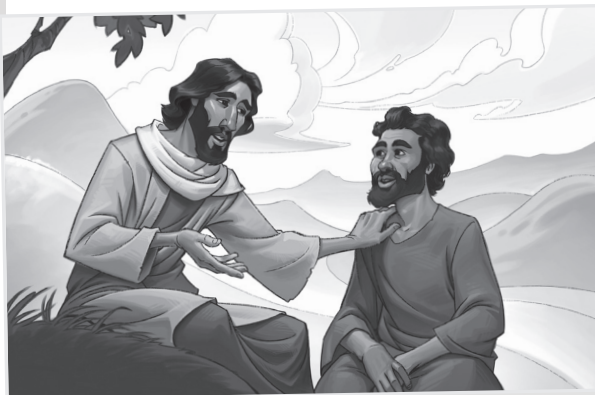
- Ask the child to pass the flashlight to another child. Repeat shining the light, removing the sticky note, and talking about what is seen.
- Continue until all sticky notes are removed from the picture. (Make sure each child gets a turn to shine the flashlight on the picture.)

## PRAY TOGETHER

- Call attention to Today’s Point on the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6). Read the Point to children.
- Say: “God promised to send His Son. Jesus is God’s promised Son.”
- Pray and thank God for His Son, Jesus.
- Offer an opportunity for children to pray and thank God for Jesus too. Allow all volunteers a turn to pray.

## MOVE TOGETHER

- Play “Shine the Light.”
- Lead preschoolers to move with the music and do the motions as indicated in the song.
- Dismiss the children according to your dismissal plan.



## CLOSING GROUP PREP

- Cover “Bible Story Picture 1” (pack item 1) with sticky notes.
- Mark your Bible at John 8:12 with a glow stick.

## PLAY A GAME SPECIAL NEEDS TIP

Using a textured ball to pass may meet a sensory need for a child.

## TIPS FOR DISMISSAL

- Follow your church’s plan for dismissal.
- Place each child’s take-home items by the door.
- Designate one leader to greet parents at the door while other leaders interact with the children.
- Thank the parents for bringing their child to VBS.
- Share a special memory about what their child did today.
- Encourage parents to bring children back tomorrow to hear that Jesus is God’s perfect Son.



## DAY 2

# JESUS IS GOD'S PERFECT SON



### BIBLE STORY

The Baptism of Jesus  
(*Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:1-11; John 1:29-34*)

### BIBLE VERSE

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." *John 8:12* (paraphrase)

### TODAY'S POINT

Jesus is God's perfect Son.

**SPOTLIGHT QUESTION:** Was Jesus just an ordinary man?

Jesus is the perfect Son of God who came to be the Savior of the world.

### LEADER DEVOTION

Children are often drawn to the tangible act of baptism before fully grasping its meaning and symbolism. As one of the two church ordinances that make theology visible and tangible, baptism is a powerful representation of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. However, while baptism comes after salvation, some children mistakenly associate it with salvation itself rather than recognizing it as an outward expression of their faith.

As we have opportunities to teach children about baptism, it is good to illuminate the fact that Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist served at least three key purposes, none of which involved salvation. Jesus did not need to repent or be saved from His sin because He was without sin. (See 2 Corinthians 5:21.) Instead, Jesus' baptism affirmed Him as the Son of God, marked the beginning of His public ministry, and set an example for believers.

Matthew 3:13-17 provides clear evidence to answer today's Spotlight Question: Was Jesus just an ordinary man? Jesus is the perfect Son of God, who came to be the Savior of the world. When Jesus asked John the Baptist to baptize Him, John pushed back, recognizing Jesus' greatness and even suggesting that John should be baptized by Jesus instead. Jesus' response to John revealed His identity as the Son of God. However, it was not just the words of Jesus that affirmed Jesus as God. All three persons of the Trinity made themselves known at Jesus' baptism. The Spirit of God descended like a dove and God's voice from heaven declared, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased" (verses 16-17).

Following the baptism of Jesus, Matthew 4 recounts the temptation of Jesus that occurred just before the public ministry of Jesus began and the disciples were first called to follow Him. Matthew 4:1 indicates it was the Spirit who led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Jesus fasted for 40 days and

40 nights before the temptations began. God had a purpose for the baptism of Jesus as it demonstrated obedience to His plan for redemption and salvation. Notably, temptation followed His obedience—it was not a consequence of disobedience but rather a testimony of His unwavering faithfulness to live out His purpose.

Finally, the baptism of Jesus provides an example for all believers to follow. Through His baptism, Jesus modeled submission to God and provided a picture of what His death, burial, and resurrection would mean to all who follow Him.

The baptism of Jesus powerfully declared His identity as the perfect Son of God and His obedience to the Father's plan. Though sinless, Jesus humbly set an example for us. The voice from heaven and the presence of the Holy Spirit affirmed that He was no ordinary man—He is the perfect Son of God and the Savior of the world.

### Illuminate Your Heart

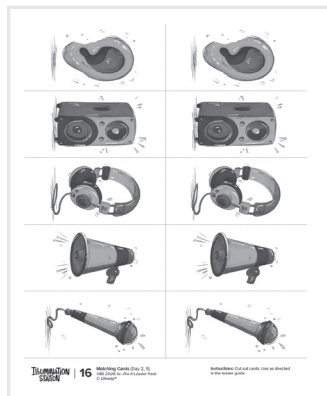
- Have you followed Christ's example of submission by being baptized? If not, pray about setting up a meeting with a church leader.
- Is your focus on the perfect Son of God? If you are distracted and looking elsewhere, decide now to turn back to Him. He is eager to receive you. If your eyes are still on Him, worship Him afresh for what He has done for you.
- As you teach today's Bible story and reflect on Jesus' baptism, remember that baptism does not save you but is an important and meaningful act of obedience that follows your decision to ask for forgiveness of your sins and place your trust in Jesus.



## FREEZE DANCE

**Supplies:** VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers, flashlight

- Say: “Welcome to Illumination Station! Today, we get to learn about Jesus, who is God’s Son. I am so glad that each of you is here with us! We will have so much fun!”
- Explain to preschoolers that they will all move around the room while the music plays.
- Explain that you will randomly shine a flashlight on a child, and she will freeze until the flashlight is no longer shining on her.
- Play “Illumination Station.”
- Shine the flashlight on different preschoolers at random times.
- Say: “You did what I asked you to do by dancing until I shined a flashlight on you. Today, we will hear about a time when Jesus did what God wanted Him to do.”



## MAKE A MATCH

**Supplies:** “Matching Cards” (pack item 16)

- Place the “Matching Cards” (pack item 16) facedown into two rows of five.
- Say: “In our Bible story today, we will hear about a time when people heard a special message from God.”
- Invite preschoolers to work together to find matching pairs of listening objects by flipping over two cards at a time. If the two cards are a match, the cards are set to the side. If the two cards are not a match, they will be flipped over for the group to try again.
- Play again as time allows.



## ROOM PREPARATION

- Prepare pack items (2, 6–8, 13, 16–21) according to the instructions printed on each item.
- Gather a VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book (9798384537014) (1 per child). If it is not possible to provide one for each child, purchase a few for the room to use during VBS.



## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION FREEZE DANCE

While preschoolers like to move to music and love to help, allow the child who does not have control of his body (cerebral palsy) to be the flashlight spotter with support from the leader.



## INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

- Invite preschoolers to sit along the sides of the paper river. Explain that today's Bible story took place beside and in a river. Demonstrate how to make silver or white marks on the "river" paper to look like waves. Encourage preschoolers to take turns adding more waves.
- When kids are finished making waves, introduce the word *perfect*. Explain that perfect often means something is exactly right, with nothing wrong. Show the circular object and point out how it is a perfect circle.
- Ask kids to use their hands to form a perfect circle. Hold up your own "perfect" circle. Remark that even though they made great circles, they are not perfect circles because they have some bends and bumps due to bones.

- Explain that during Spotlight Bible Study kids will be learning that Jesus is God's perfect Son, someone who never did anything wrong.

## TELL THE BIBLE STORY

- Remind preschoolers that yesterday they learned what people said about Jesus. (*He is God's promised Son.*) Explain that today kids are going to learn what God said about Jesus.
- Open your Bible to Matthew 3. Show each picture in the "Sequence Cards" (pack item 17) at the appropriate times while telling the Bible story.



### BIBLE STORY GROUP TIME

- "Bible Story Picture 2" (pack item 2)
- "Focal Wall" (pack item 6)
- "Focal Wall Add-ons" (pack item 7)
- "Bible Verse Poster" (pack item 8)
- "Sequence Cards" (pack item 17)
- "Spinner" (pack item 18)
- "Day 2 Review Questions" (pack item 19)
- VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers* (from leader pack)
- VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book*
- VBS 2026 Memory Maker* (9798384538141)
- Strip of blue paper long enough for kids to sit beside (will be used again in Closing Activity)
- Silver or white crayons
- Circular object such as a plastic cookie cutter or ball
- Scissors
- Brass paper fastener
- Sticky notes

## THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

*Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:1-11; John 1:29-34*



John the Baptist was baptizing people. He would lower them in the water and bring them back up to show other people that they chose to follow God. (*Lay down the card of John baptizing people.*)

John said, "Someone is coming who is greater than I am—someone who is so important that I shouldn't even untie His sandals." The someone greater John was talking about is Jesus.

Jesus went to see John the Baptist at the Jordan River. (*Lay down the card of Jesus on the shore.*) Jesus told John that He wanted to be baptized, but John didn't think he should baptize Jesus. "I need You to baptize me," John said. John was confused. He baptized people who disobeyed God, but Jesus never disobeyed God!

Jesus said, "Let Me be baptized. God says this is right." So John baptized Jesus. (*Lay down the card of Jesus with John in the water.*)

When Jesus came up out of the water, God's voice came from heaven. "This is My Son," the voice said. "I love Him, and I am very pleased with Him!" (*Lay down the card of Jesus leaving the water after being baptized.*)

Jesus was more than just an ordinary man. He is the perfect Son of God.



## REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

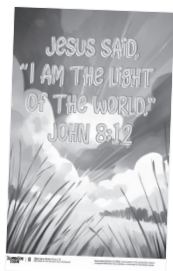
- Lay out the “Day 2 Review Questions” (pack item 19) facedown. Invite preschoolers to spin the “Spinner” (pack item 18)

one at a time. When the arrow lands on a color, read aloud the corresponding review question card. Preschoolers will work together to answer the question. If the spinner lands on a color that has already been spun, allow the next child to have a turn. Continue until all questions have been answered.

- Say: “Great job remembering our Bible story! This story tells us that Jesus is God’s perfect Son.”

## REPEAT THE BIBLE VERSE

- Open the Bible to John 8:12. Display the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8). Read the verse aloud as you point to each word.
- Invite preschoolers to repeat the Bible verse with you as you point to the words again.
- Cover one word of the verse with a sticky note.
- Repeat the verse together and say the missing word when the sticky note appears in the verse.
- Add an additional sticky note every round of repetition to help preschoolers learn the Bible verse.
- Say: “Each of you worked so hard to learn our Bible verse together! You did a great job! Our Bible verse tells us that Jesus is the Light of the world.”
- Play and sing “Light of the World.”



## PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray. Thank God for the Bible that helps people know about Jesus, the perfect Son of God.
- Allow any volunteers to thank God too.

## FOCUS ON THE POINT

- Play and sing “Who Is Jesus?”
- Show the “Bible Story Picture 2” (pack item 2) and ask who the children see in the picture. Talk about the picture.
- Ask: “Was Jesus just a person like everyone else?” Encourage the children to think and then answer the question.
- Show the Day 2 flap on the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6) and invite a child to lift it up.
- Say: “Jesus is God’s perfect Son. Jesus never disobeyed God.”



## MAKE A MEMORY

- Play and sing “I Can Be Like Jesus.”
- Turn to page 6 in the Activity Book. Complete the activity together.
- Give each child a Day 2 Memory Maker. Talk about the drawing of the river. Say that the picture can help preschoolers remember that Jesus was baptized in a river.
- Jesus wanted to be baptized because He knew that was what God wanted Him to do. Say Today’s Point: Jesus is God’s perfect Son.
- Guide the preschoolers to add the Day 2 tags to their Memory Maker bags. Gather the Memory Makers as you prepare to transition to other activities.

## TRANSITION TO BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Explain the Bible-learning Activities provided.
- Invite 2–3 children at a time to choose an activity. Guide them to move their hands like waves in a river as they move to the activity.



## JUMP IN ORDER

**Supplies:** “Sequence Cards” (pack item 17), construction paper, painter’s tape

- Tape “Sequence Cards” (pack item 17) to the floor in order. Between the cards also tape down colorful pieces of construction paper to extend the jumping path.
- Encourage preschoolers to jump from spot to spot. When they land on a sequence card, ask them to tell what is happening in the picture.
- Say: “In our Bible story today, God spoke and told the people who Jesus is. Jesus is God’s perfect Son!”

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Allow preschoolers to mix up the sequence cards.
- Hide each picture around the room.
- Invite preschoolers to bring each of the pictures back to you and place on a table.
- Assist preschoolers as they place the pictures in their correct order.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I can remember important things that happened in the Bible.

## SINK OR FLOAT

**Supplies:** Plastic tub, water, various sink-or-float objects (Examples: rubber duck, sandal, rock, coins, keys, interlocking block, rubber ball, etc.), Allergy Alert listing any nature or food items (see p. 7 to download), towels **Extend:** bucket, additional sink-or-float objects

- Fill a plastic tub with water and place the various sink-or-float items next to it, all on the towel.
- Invite children to gather around the tub.
- Say: “I am going to hold up an object, and you will guess if it will sink or float in the water. Then I will drop it in, and we will find out!”
- Hold up each item and ask if it will sink or float.
- Drop in the items one at a time and view the results.
- Say: “We learned today that Jesus was baptized by a man named John. When Jesus was baptized, He went under the water and came back up.”

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Provide additional items in a bucket. One at a time, allow preschoolers to select an item from the bucket. She can ask her friends if they think the item will sink or float before she gently lets it go into the water.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I can know that Jesus was baptized.



### SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION JUMP IN ORDER

For kids with balance and large motor movement difficulty, make this a tossing game. Guide kids to toss a beanbag onto the sequence pictures among the construction paper.

### SINK OR FLOAT TIP

Supervise children closely when using items that present a choking hazard such as coins or other small items.

## PLAY INSTRUMENTS IN WATER

**Supplies:** Large tub with water, household items to use as instruments (stainless steel bowls and lids, plastic mixing spoons, plastic canisters, plastic buckets), towels

**Extend:** *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers*

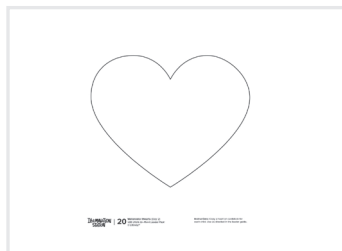
- Fill the tub 1 inch deep with water. Place the tub on top of the towels to catch any water that splashes over. Put the household instruments in the water.
- Say: “We can celebrate that Jesus is God’s perfect Son by making music.”
- Demonstrate how to make music using the items in the water to make sounds. Experiment by adding different amounts of water to the containers.
- Allow preschoolers to discover making music together.

### EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Play “I Can Be Like Jesus.”
- Invite preschoolers to play the instruments in the water to the beat of the music.

### \*KID CONNECTION

I can celebrate who Jesus is.



## PAINT WITH WATERCOLORS

**Supplies:** “Watercolor Hearts” (pack item 20), “Mini Hearts” (pack item 21), glue sticks, white heavyweight paper, watercolor paints, paintbrushes, water, plastic cups, scissors, *VBS 2026 Tablecloths* (9798384538189) (optional), painting smocks (optional) **Extend:** hole punch, yarn

- Copy “Watercolor Hearts” (pack item 20, 1 per child) and “Mini Hearts” (pack item 21, 1 heart per child) on white heavyweight paper. Cut out mini hearts.
- Cover tables with tablecloths.
- Fill plastic cups with water and set at each table.
- Say: “Jesus was baptized in water. When He came out of the water, God told everyone that He loves His Son, Jesus. Our hearts can help us remember that God loves His perfect Son. We can love Jesus too.”
- Allow preschoolers to use watercolors to paint the blank hearts.
- Invite preschoolers to use glue sticks to glue their mini hearts on top of the watercolor heart.

### EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

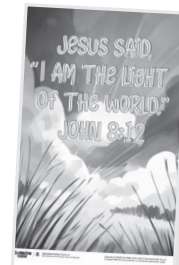
- Punch a hole at the top of each preschooler’s watercolor heart.
- Cut 3-foot strands of yarn, one for each child.
- Help each child string yarn through the hole at the top of her heart and tie a knot at the top to form a loop.
- Show preschoolers how their hearts can hang from a door knob.

### \*KID CONNECTION

I can learn what the Bible says about Jesus.

### BONUS ACTIVITY MAKE PROJECTORS

- ❑ “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8)
- ❑ Small paper cups
- ❑ Wide transparent tape
- ❑ Flashlights
- ❑ Scissors
- ❑ *VBS 2026 Sticky Foam Shapes* (9798384538134)



- Cut out the bottoms of the paper cups.
- Cut a 4-inch length of tape and help a child place the tape over one end of a cup. Lead the child to add foam stickers to the tape.
- When the child is finished, help him shine a flashlight through the open end of the cup and project his design on the wall. Remind kids not to shine lights into people’s eyes or faces.
- Shine the design on the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8) and say the verse.

### SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION

#### PAINT WITH WATERCOLORS

Offer larger painting brushes such as sponge brushes or small pattern roller brushes for the child to use.

#### TRANSITION TO ROTATIONS

- Guide kids to line up to move to rotations.
- Place a leader at the front and back of the line for safety.
- Take a list of children’s names with you for emergency info and check at each rotation to account for each child.
- Suggest that kids walk carefully and pretend to carry a lit candle. Say: “Don’t walk too fast or your candle will go out.”

# CLOSING GROUP TIME



**Supplies:** “Sequence Cards” (pack item 17), “Focal Wall” (pack item 6), “Bible Story Picture 2” (pack item 2), “John 8:12 Flashlights” (pack item 13) “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8), blue “river” paper from Group Time, beanbag, *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers*

## PLAY A GAME

- Invite preschoolers to join you in sitting beside the “river” again.
- Lay out the “Sequence Cards” (pack item 17) on the floor.
- Guide a preschooler to toss a beanbag onto a sequence card. If the beanbag lands on a card, the preschooler should share something about the Bible story. If the beanbag does not land on a card, she should repeat the Bible verse.
- Say: “You all did a great job tossing the beanbag. These pictures remind us that Jesus is special. Jesus is not like any other person.”

## THINK ABOUT THE POINT

- Point to the Day 2 flap on the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6) and select a child to lift it up.
- Ask: “Was Jesus just a person like everyone else?”
- Invite kids to repeat Today’s Point with you: Jesus is God’s perfect Son.
- Say: “When Jesus was baptized and came out of the water, God’s voice spoke from heaven. God told the people that Jesus is His Son and He loves Him.”

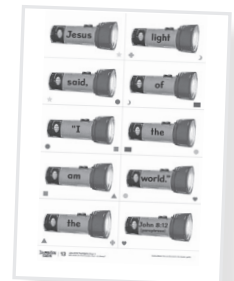
- Say: “The people were probably surprised to hear God’s voice when they learned that Jesus is God’s Son.”
- Invite preschoolers to show you their best surprised faces.

## PRAY AND SING

- Pray, thanking God for sending His Son, Jesus. Invite any interested preschooler to pray aloud.
- Play and sing “Who Is Jesus?”

## RECALL THE BIBLE VERSE

- Mix the “John 8:12 Flashlight” cards (pack item 13) and lay the words on the floor.
- Read each word.
- Work with the children to put the words in order. Call attention to the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8) or the shapes on the cards for reference.
- Point to each word as you say the verse together.
- Mix the cards again and reassemble the Bible verse as time allows.
- Play and sing “Light of the World.” Lead preschoolers to do the motions as you choose.
- Dismiss the children according to your dismissal plan.



## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION PLAY A GAME

Let a child stand on the line and use a small pool noodle to tap the sequence card. This works great for a child in a wheelchair too.

## TIPS FOR DISMISSAL

- Follow your church’s plan for dismissal.
- Place each child’s take-home items by the door.
- Designate one leader to greet parents at the door while other leaders interact with the children.
- Thank the parents for bringing their child to VBS.
- Share a special memory about what their child did today.
- Encourage parents to bring them back tomorrow to hear more about Jesus, God’s powerful Son.





## DAY 3

# JESUS IS THE POWERFUL SON OF GOD



### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Performed Miracles  
*Matthew 15:29-39*

### BIBLE VERSE

Jesus said, "I am the light of  
the world."  
*John 8:12* (paraphrase)

### TODAY'S POINT

Jesus is the powerful Son of God.

**SPOTLIGHT QUESTION:** Was Jesus just  
a teacher?

Everything Jesus said and did showed  
that He is the powerful Son of God.

### LEADER DEVOTION

Matthew 15:29-39 provides compelling evidence that Jesus was more than just a teacher—He is the powerful Son of God. Let's shed some light on this passage. This account takes place on a mountain near the Sea of Galilee, where large crowds gathered, bringing people who were in desperate need of healing.

Bringing those in need up a mountain to the feet of Jesus must have required physical effort and determination. Perhaps some people had already heard about the four friends who lowered a man who was paralyzed through a roof to receive Jesus' healing power (Mark 2:1-5). Regardless, their actions reflected their faith in Jesus' ability to heal.

The details of how Jesus healed each of them are left out. Scripture simply states, "They put them at his feet, and he healed them." It was not unusual for Jesus to heal multiple people in one setting, as the Gospels record several similar occasions (Luke 4:40, Matthew 9:35, Mark 6:56).

Following this incredible display of healing, another miracle occurred—one that impacted everyone present. Jesus was moved by compassion because the people had been with Him for 3 days and had nothing to eat. The disciples pointed out the obvious challenge: they were in a remote place with little access to food. When Jesus asked how much food they had, the disciples responded with just 7 loaves of bread and a few fish—hardly enough to feed more than 4,000 hungry people. Yet, as they were about to witness, in the hands of Jesus, a little is more than enough.

After Jesus took the loaves and fish, He gave thanks and then began breaking the bread to be given to the people by the disciples. The result? Matthew 15:37, "They all ate and were satisfied. They collected the leftover pieces—seven large baskets full." Jesus was no ordinary teacher; He is the powerful Son of God.

He could do things no one else could, and the disciples often had a front-row seat to the miracles Jesus performed.

What must it have been like to see these miracles unfold—to watch people be healed and to see over 4,000 people fed from just 7 loaves and a few fish? In both instances, Jesus responded to a need by involving people in His work. In this event, Jesus did not go looking for people to heal. People took the initiative to come to Him. For the hungry crowd, Jesus used what was given to Him by the disciples to meet the needs of the multitudes.

As you prepare to teach children about the powerful Son of God, also look for ways to share this amazing truth in everyday conversation with your best friend or your hair stylist or your kid's baseball coach. Be prepared to give personal examples of how Jesus has proven to be powerful in your life. Never underestimate what God may want to do through your efforts to share the gospel with the people around you both inside and outside of VBS.

#### Illuminate Your Heart

- What are you doing to bring people to Jesus? Are you willing to give what you have when there are needs around you?
- Pray for the children and families who are being brought to the feet of Jesus this week. Ask God to show you the people in your sphere of influence who you may need to bring to VBS this week.

# INTRO ACTIVITIES



## ROOM PREPARATION

- Prepare pack items (3, 6–8, 13, 22–26) according to the instructions printed on each item.
- Gather a *VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book* (9798384537014) (1 per child). If it is not possible to provide one for each child, purchase a few for the room to use during VBS.



## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION PICK WHICH FOOD IS BETTER

Use painter's tape to create a line on the floor. Guide the kids to line up on the line facing the leader. Show that one side of the line represents the first option you will mention and the other side of the line represents the second option. When the leader asks, "Which do you like best, cake or carrots," the children move to their preferred side. Lead them to return to the taped line for the next question.



## PICK WHICH FOOD IS BETTER

**Supplies:** no supplies needed

- Guide preschoolers to begin in a bent-down stance with their hands on their knees.
- Lead kids to pick which food or drink they would rather have from the options given. If they like the first option better, they should sit down. If they like the second option better, they should stand up. After every choice, direct children to return to their original pose.
  - Cake or carrots
  - Brussels sprouts or ice cream
  - Marshmallows or spaghetti
  - Milk or juice
  - Popcorn or pizza
  - Fish or bread
- Continue the game by allowing preschoolers to come up with their own options as well.
- Say: "We all like different kinds of food. Today we will hear a Bible story that had two of these foods: fish and bread."

## PLAY WITH A DOCTOR KIT

**Supplies:** toy doctor kits, gauze bandage rolls, adhesive bandages (latex free), cotton balls, cotton swabs, craft sticks

- Invite preschoolers to play pretend with the toy doctor's kit and supplies.
- Name the different items in the kit and explain how doctors use them.
- Encourage preschoolers to take turns being the doctor and the patient.
- Play as time allows. Then display all the supplies. Select a child and describe an item from a doctor's kit to her. Lead her to find that item and place it in a kit. Continue until all items have been returned to the kits.
- Say: "Today we will hear about a time when sick people came to Jesus for help."



# GROUP TIME

## PASS THE CANNED GOOD

- Guide preschoolers to sit in a circle.
- Play “Illumination Station” as kids pass the unopened canned food item around the circle. When the music stops, the child holding the can will tell something he likes to eat.
- Restart the music and play until every child has had a turn.
- Say: “Those are all yummy foods! I am thankful that God gives us yummy things to eat.”

## INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

- Hold the canned food item and ask: “Do you think this (*say type of food*) would be enough for me to eat with my dinner? Would it be enough for all of us to eat for

dinner? Would it be enough for everyone at VBS to eat for dinner?”

- Explain that it would be impossible for one can of food to feed so many people.

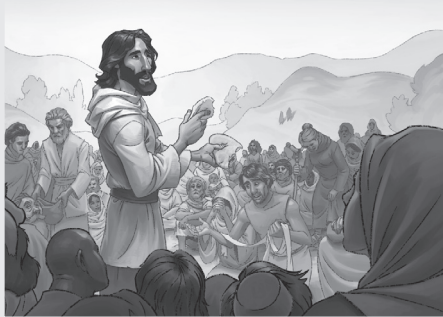
## TELL THE BIBLE STORY

- Show “Bible Story Picture 3” (pack item 3) and point out Jesus.
- Say: “We will hear another true story from the Bible about Jesus today.”
- Challenge preschoolers to listen for the miracle in today’s Bible story. Mention that a miracle is something that only God and Jesus can do.
- Open the Bible to Matthew 15 and tell the Bible story. Distribute “Fish and Bread” (pack item 22) craft sticks as directed in the story.



## GROUP TIME SUPPLIES AND PREP

- Bible
- “Bible Story Picture 3” (pack item 3)
- “Focal Wall” (pack item 6)
- “Focal Wall Add-ons” (pack item 7)
- “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8)
- “Fish and Bread” (pack item 22)
- VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers (from leader pack)
- VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book
- VBS 2026 Memory Maker (9798384538141)
- Unopened canned food item
- 2 small baskets
- Scissors
- Heavyweight paper
- Craft sticks
- Tape
- Copy “Fish and Bread” (pack item 22) onto heavyweight paper so that each child can have one fish and one loaf of bread. **Do not cut the original pack item. You will need it again in another activity.**
- Tape each fish and bread card to its own craft stick. (1 of each stick per child) Put the fish in a basket and the bread in another basket.



## JESUS PERFORMED MIRACLES

Matthew 15:29-39

One day Jesus went up on a mountain and sat down. A lot of people came to the mountain. Some people could not walk, talk, or see. Some people were sick in different ways. Since Jesus is God’s Son He could make the people well. The crowd was surprised to see these people get well. They thanked God for healing the people!

Jesus felt sorry for the people in the crowd. He told His disciples (helpers), “These people have been here for three days, and they don’t have anything to eat. I don’t want to send them away hungry.”

The disciples said, “Where could we get enough food to feed so many people?”

Jesus asked, “How many loaves of bread do you have?”

“Seven,” the disciples said, “and a few small fish.” (**Hold up a few fish and bread craft sticks.**)

Jesus told the crowd to sit down. He took the seven loaves and the fish. Jesus thanked God for them, and He broke them into pieces. He handed the pieces to the disciples, who gave them to the people. (**Distribute fish and bread craft sticks to each child.**)

Even though Jesus started with very little food, there was enough for everyone to eat until they were full. There were seven large baskets of leftovers! Jesus fed 4,000 men plus women and children that day.

Jesus was more than just a teacher. He could do things no one else could do because He is the powerful Son of God.

## TRANSITION TO BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Describe each Bible-learning activity in the room for today.
- Invite preschoolers to pretend to eat bread and fish while walking to the activity they choose.

## REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

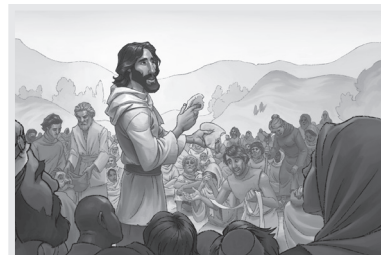
- Guide preschoolers to answer the following review questions. If the answer is yes, lead them to hold up their fish sticks. If the answer is no, lead them to hold up their bread sticks.
  - Did Jesus help the people who were sick or hurt? (*Yes; hold up fish stick.*)
  - Did the people thank the disciples for healing them? (*No—they thanked God; hold up bread stick.*)
  - Did the disciples have seven loaves of bread? (*Yes; hold up fish stick.*)
  - Did some people leave hungry? (*No—all the people ate until they were full; hold up bread stick.*)
  - Is Jesus just a teacher? (*No—Jesus is the powerful Son of God; hold up bread stick.*)
- Congratulate boys and girls for being such good listeners. Collect the fish and bread sticks.

## REPEAT THE BIBLE VERSE


- Open the Bible to John 8:12. Read the Bible verse paraphrase aloud.
- Invite kids to repeat the Bible verse with you in a soft whisper. Continue repeating the verse, getting louder each time.
- Point to the words on the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8) as you repeat them.
- Say: “Jesus, the Son of God, came to help people know more about who God is and what God wants people to do.”
- Sing “Light of the World” together to practice the Bible verse.

## PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray. Thank God for Jesus and the things Jesus did. Thank God that Jesus is the powerful Son of God.



## FOCUS ON THE POINT

- Display “Bible Story Picture 3” (pack item 3). Guide preschoolers to comment on what they see.
- Point to the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6) Day 3 flap on the wall and select a child to lift it up.
 
- Say: “Jesus is the powerful Son of God.” Encourage preschoolers to tell what Jesus did that was powerful.
- Say: “Jesus did something that no one else could do. This is called a miracle. A *miracle* is something that only God can do. A miracle shows Jesus’ power.”
- Say: “Jesus is more than a teacher. Jesus is the powerful Son of God.”

## MAKE A MEMORY

- Turn to page 11 in the Activity Book. Complete the activity together.
- Give each child a Day 3 Memory Maker. Talk about the drawing of the fish and bread. Say that the picture can help preschoolers remember that Jesus fed more than 4,000 people with just a few fish and 7 loaves of bread.
- Remind preschoolers that Jesus can do things no one else can do. Say Today’s Point: Jesus is the powerful Son of God.
- Guide the preschoolers to add the Day 3 tags to their Memory Maker bags. Gather the Memory Makers as you prepare to transition to other activities.



## TASTE CINNAMON BREAD

**Supplies:** Allergy Alert (see p. 7 to download), bread slices, paper plates, fish-shaped cookie cutters, melted butter, cinnamon sugar mix, small containers, small shakers, plastic spoons, toaster or griddle **Extend:** different flavors of gelatin powder, additional small shakers

- Post an Allergy Alert listing the ingredients. Toast bread slices in advance. Use a fish-shaped cookie cutter to cut each slice, two slices per child. Melt sticks of butter and allow time to cool slightly. Place melted butter in small containers. Place cinnamon sugar mix in small shakers.
- Say: “In our Bible story today, Jesus performed a miracle by using only 7 loaves of bread and a few fish to feed over 4,000 people!”
- Pray, thanking God for today’s snack.
- Distribute a paper plate with toast to each child.
- Place spoons, melted butter containers, and cinnamon sugar mix on the tables.
- Show preschoolers how to use their spoons to scoop butter and spread it on their toast. Then guide them to shake a small bit of cinnamon sugar mix onto their bread.
- Encourage children to taste their bread.
- Say: “Jesus can do miracles because He is the powerful Son of God.”

### EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Provide a few different flavors of gelatin powder in small shakers.
- Offer a child another fish slice and allow him to shake different flavors on his toast to taste.

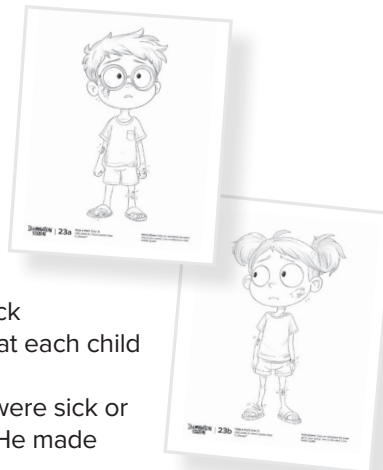
### \*KID CONNECTION

I can know Jesus does things no one else can do.

## HELP A HURT

**Supplies:** “Help a Hurt” (pack items 23a and 23b), adhesive bandages (latex free, 4 per child), crayons or washable markers, heavyweight paper

- Copy a “Help a Hurt” (pack items 23a and 23b) so that each child has one template.
- Say: “Many people who were sick or hurt came to Jesus, and He made them well!”
- Give each child a “Help a Hurt” person. Lead children to color their person.
- Once a child has finished coloring, give him four adhesive bandages to place on his person.
- Say: “It is important to help people when they are hurt or sick, but Jesus can do more than that. Jesus has the power to make people well!”



### EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Allow preschoolers to share their artwork with the group.
- Count each bandage on the preschoolers’ pages together.

### \*KIDS CONNECTION

I can think about the things Jesus did that show He is God’s Son.

### TASTE CINNAMON BREAD TIP

- If a fish-shaped cookie cutter is not available, a sharp knife can be used to cut out the shape.
- Enlist an additional adult to help with this activity.



### SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION TASTE CINNAMON BREAD

For kids with significant food allergies, provide play food and other items for the child to replicate what the leader is doing. Children can pretend they are eating the snack. Consider speaking with the parents in advance and asking them to prepare a snack for their child to enjoy the same way the classmates will be enjoying their snack.

# BIBLE—LEARNING ACTIVITIES

## BONUS ACTIVITY

### Search for It

- ❑ Flashlights (1 per child)
- Say: “At Illumination Station, we use light so we can see things better. Today, we get to look for objects using our flashlights!”
- Distribute flashlights and remind preschoolers not to shine lights in people’s eyes or faces. Lead the group to search for objects that are the color you call. Search for something:
  - Red
  - Pink
  - Yellow
  - Green
  - White
  - Purple
  - Blue
- Say: “Lights show us things that we can’t see in the dark. Jesus showed people that He is the powerful Son of God.”

## CRAWL THROUGH A LIGHT PRISM

**Supplies:** Bible, “Room Map” (pack item 24), different colors of crepe paper, tape, mini white string lights, light prism, *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers* **Extend:** “John 8:12 Flashlights” (pack item 13)

- Follow the “Room Map” (pack item 24) to set up the room.
- Show the real light prism. Say: “When light travels through a prism, it shines with bright colors on the other side. Call attention to the crepe paper “prism” and point out the different colors preschoolers see shining from the lights.
- Play “Things No One Else Can Do” while allowing preschoolers to crawl under the prism one at a time.
- Open the Bible to John 8:12. Read the Bible verse paraphrase aloud.
- Say: “We learn about Jesus by reading the Bible. Jesus called Himself the Light of the world!”

### EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Place the “John 8:12 Flashlights” (pack item 13) randomly under the prism.
- Guide kids to get one flashlight card as they crawl through the prism again.
- Put the verse in order after all the cards have been found.

### \*KID CONNECTION

I can know that Jesus is the Light of the world.

## FIND WHAT COMES NEXT

**Supplies:** “Fish and Bread” (pack item 22) “Fish and Bread Patterns” (pack item 25), copy paper, scissors

- Copy and cut out “Fish and Bread” (pack item 22) so that every child in the small group has four fish, bread, and basket cards.
- Place a “Fish and Bread Pattern” (pack item 25) strip on the table. Guide preschoolers to make the pattern with you using the “Fish and Bread” cards. Point out that children can figure out which object comes next based on the pattern.
- Work the patterns together as time allows.
- Say: “In our Bible story, we learned that Jesus used 7 loaves of bread and a few fish to feed more than 4,000 people. He can do miracles, things no one else can do, because He is the powerful Son of God!”

### EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Invite preschoolers to sort their cards into three piles: fish, bread, and baskets.
- Explain that Jesus provided enough fish and bread for everyone to be fed and have seven baskets of leftovers.

### \*KID CONNECTION

I can remember a miracle that Jesus did.



## SPECIAL NEEDS

### ADAPTATION

#### CRAWL THROUGH A LIGHT PRISM

Attach crepe paper to the top of a wall and angle it out until it reaches the floor. Make the space wide enough for wheelchairs to travel through the colors.



# CLOSING GROUP TIME

**Supplies:** “Focal Wall” (pack item 6), “Day 3 Review Questions” (pack item 26), “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8), equal lengths of ribbon, *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers*

## PLAY A GAME

- State an action and lead preschoolers to act out each statement.
- Examples:
  - Show me how to hold a Bible.
  - Show me how you look when you are hungry.
  - Show me how you look when you are fed.
  - Show me how you look when you are sick.
  - Show me how you look when you get better.
- Say: “Great job! Today we learned things Jesus could do because He is the powerful Son of God. What were some of the things from our Bible story that Jesus did that no one else can do?”
- Call attention to the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6) and invite preschoolers to repeat Today’s Point with you: Jesus is the powerful Son God’s.

## REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- Say: “We have learned so much about Jesus today. Let’s remember everything we learned.”
- Fan out the “Day 3 Review Questions” (pack item 26) in your hand and allow preschoolers to come up one at a time to choose a card.
- Read the question aloud and allow preschoolers to answer as a group.
- Repeat until all questions have been answered.

## REPEAT THE BIBLE VERSE:

- Display the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8).
- Ask preschoolers to repeat the Bible verse with you.
- Give each child a length of ribbon. Direct kids to stand with space between them.
- Play “Light of the World.” Direct preschoolers to move their ribbons as they sing the verse.
- Say the verse again as you wave the ribbons.
- Tell the preschoolers to place ribbons under their chairs or behind their backs on the floor.

## SING TOGETHER:

- Play “Who Is Jesus?” Lead kids to sing the song and do the motions.
- Ask children to tell you what they learned about Jesus today. Allow each volunteer to talk.
- Say: “I am so glad we can learn about Jesus together.”
- Pray and thank God for the Bible that tells about Jesus. Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus.
- Offer an opportunity for preschoolers to pray and thank God too.
- Dismiss the children according to your dismissal plan.



## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION REPEAT THE BIBLE VERSE

Tie crepe paper or wide ribbon around swim diving rings or hard plastic dress-up jewelry bracelets. This gives the children a place to hold the ribbons and move freely around the room.

## TRANSITION TO ROTATIONS

- Guide kids to line up to move to rotations.
- Place a leader at the front and back of the line for safety.
- Take a list of children’s names with you for emergency info and check at each rotation to account for each child.
- As you lead the group, direct them to follow your movements as you walk down the hall. (March, move arms up and down, tiptoe, etc.)

## TIPS FOR DISMISSAL

- Follow your church’s dismissal plan.
- Place each child’s personal belongings and other items to take home by the door.
- Designate one leader to greet at the door while the other leaders are engaged in activities with the children.
- Encourage parents or guardians to bring their child back for Day 4 of VBS. Tell at least one fun activity they will be doing on Day 4.

# DAY 4

## JESUS IS THE PROVEN SON OF GOD



### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Died and Rose to Life  
*Mark 14:43–16:7*

### BIBLE VERSE

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”  
*John 8:12* (paraphrase)

### TODAY’S POINT

Jesus is alive!

**SPOTLIGHT QUESTION:** Was Jesus just someone who lived a long time ago? Jesus lived, died, and rose to life again to be our Savior, now and forever.

### LEADER DEVOTION

Do you remember the first time you heard the story of Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection? If you grew up in a Christian home, it may be difficult to recall that moment, and you may have never questioned whether Jesus was more than just a man who lived a long time ago. For some children in your Vacation Bible School, this week may be the first time they encounter the life-changing truth of Jesus’ resurrection and the salvation He offers each of us.

If it is hard to imagine children in your classroom not knowing about Jesus, consider this: Over the past 25 years, 40 million people have stopped attending church.<sup>1</sup> As a result, church membership in America has dropped below 50 percent.<sup>2</sup> This means we can no longer assume that every child in Vacation Bible School is attending church regularly or has even heard the true story of Jesus. What if you are the first person to tell them the truth of the gospel? How does that impact the way you prepare for this session?

It’s not just children who have never heard about Jesus and who need convictional teaching this week—it’s also people who have heard about Him but are surrounded by a world that questions and devalues the life of Jesus. To navigate an increasingly post-Christian world, children need a biblical worldview that upholds the Bible as absolute truth. A 2022 study by George Barna found that only 18% of 13- and 14-year-olds listed the Bible as their primary source of truth<sup>3</sup> and 61% “either believe Jesus Christ sinned or may have sinned while He was on earth.”<sup>4</sup> It is important that we continually point children to the Bible as the source of all truth and show them the evidence found in the Scriptures to support Jesus as the proven Son of God.

Throughout this week, children will be having “light bulb moments” as they are learning who Jesus is and how His life provides proof that He was more than just a teacher who lived a long time ago. Jesus did things no one else could do, like heal people who were sick or who had physical disabilities, provide sight to people who were blind, and turn a small amount of food into more than enough to feed the multitudes! He spoke with an authority no one had heard before. The ultimate proof came through the resurrection—the undeniable evidence that He is who He claimed to be.

#### Illuminate Your Heart

- How have you experienced Jesus personally? Thank Him for being present in your life.
- There could be no greater privilege than to tell children about the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Pray for the children in your care who may be hearing this story for the first time. Ask God to speak through you as you tell the good news of Jesus.

1. Jim Davis, Michael Graham, and Ryan P Burge. *The Great Dechurching: Who’s Leaving, Why Are They Going, and What Will It Take to Bring Them Back?* (Zondervan, 2023), 5.

2. Jefferey Jones, “U.S. Church Membership Falls Below Majority for First Time,” Gallup, March 29, 2021, <https://news.gallup.com/poll/341963/church-membership-falls-below-majority-first-time.aspx>.

3. George Barna, *Raising Spiritual Champions: Nurturing Your Child’s Heart, Mind and Soul* (Arizona Christian University Press, 2023), 27. (hereafter cited as *Raising Champions*).

4. *Raising Champions*, 28.

# INTRO ACTIVITIES

## COPY SHADOWS

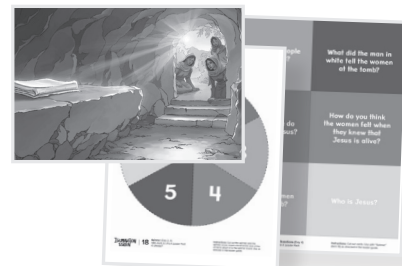
**Supplies:** spotlight or strong flashlight

- Turn on the spotlight and shine it against a blank wall in the classroom.
- Invite preschoolers to line up facing the blank wall, so they can see their own shadows.
- Stand in the center to begin the game. Direct kids to begin making movements so they can observe their shadows.
- Say: "Can you follow my movements and copy my shadows?"
- Begin to move around by placing your hands on top of your head, stretching your arms out wide, standing on your tiptoes and so forth. Encourage children to make the same movements.
- Allow preschoolers to take turns being the leader and creating their own movements for the group to follow.
- Say: "You did a great job of copying shadows. Your shadows prove that you are able to move around and have fun. Today we are going to hear a story about a man who proved He is alive!"

## CUT STRAWS AND PAPER

**Supplies:** "Bible Verse Poster" (pack item 8), neon straws, neon paper, shallow plastic bin, child scissors, paper punches

- Place the "Bible Verse Poster" (pack item 8) in the shallow bin. Lay other materials nearby.
- Invite a child to cut the straws and paper with scissors, or she can punch holes or shapes in the paper.
- Challenge children to place straw or paper pieces in the bin to try and cover the poster.
- Say the words of the verse.
- Talk about what the children have learned about Jesus during VBS.



## ROOM PREPARATION

- Prepare pack items (1–4, 6–8, 10, 18, 27–30) according to the instructions printed on each item.
- Gather a VBS 2026 *Preschool Activity Book* (9798384537014) (1 per child). If it is not possible to provide one for each child, purchase a few for the room to use during VBS.

## COPY SHADOWS TIP

Shine the spotlight with enough space on the wall so every preschooler's shadow can be seen.

## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION COPY SHADOWS

Post pictures of example poses for children to copy.

## CUT STRAWS AND PAPER TIP

Small straw pieces can be a choking hazard. Supervise children closely.

## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION CUT STRAWS AND PAPER

Allow kids with low muscle tone and fine motor coordination to tear the paper. Small salad tongs can be used to pick up straw and paper pieces that have already been cut.





## BIBLE STORY GROUP TIME

- ❑ Bible
- ❑ Allergy Alert (if real bread is used)
- ❑ “Focal Wall” (pack item 6)
- ❑ “Focal Wall Add-ons” (pack item 7)
- ❑ “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8)
- ❑ “Spinner” (pack item 18)
- ❑ “Day 4 Review Questions” (pack item 27)
- ❑ *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers* (from leader pack)
- ❑ *VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book*
- ❑ *VBS 2026 Memory Maker* (9798384538141)
- ❑ Shoebox
- ❑ Adhesive bandage
- ❑ Piece of bread (real or play food)
- ❑ Blue construction paper
- ❑ Black marker
- ❑ Name tag
- ❑ Gray construction paper
- ❑ Small cross
- ❑ Piece of cloth
- Use a black marker to draw waves on the blue construction paper.
- Crumple up the gray construction paper to form a “stone.”
- Write *God’s Son* on the name tag.
- Place the “waves,” “stone,” name tag, bandage, bread, cross, and cloth in a shoebox. Items will be used again in Closing Activity.

## SING AND MOVE TOGETHER

- Play “Who Is Jesus?” Guide preschoolers to move to the music using the motions on page 47.
- Say: “We have learned that Jesus is God’s promised, perfect, and powerful Son. Today we get to learn another exciting truth about Jesus!”

## INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

- Call attention to the shoe box. Explain that the items in the box can help kids recall what they have learned this week. Be sensitive to kids who may not have attended every day.
- Pull out the name tag. Say: “People wear name tags so other people will know who they are. Jesus did not wear a name tag, but Peter knew who Jesus was. Do you remember what Peter said?” (*Jesus is God’s Son.*)

- Pull out the “waves” paper. Ask kids what they remember about the Bible story that happened at the river. (*Jesus was baptized in the river. God said Jesus is His Son, and God loves Him very much.*)
- Show the bandage and bread. Choose a volunteer to tell what they have to do with the Day 3 Bible story. (*Jesus healed people. He fed more than 4,000 people with a small amount of fish and bread. He can do things no one else can do.*)

## TELL THE BIBLE STORY

- Pull out the remaining items from the box. Challenge kids to listen for what the cloth, cross, and stone have to do with today’s Bible story. Set the empty shoebox aside until after the Bible story.
- Open the Bible to Mark 14. Tell the Bible story and show items as listed below.



## JESUS DIED AND ROSE TO LIFE

*Mark 14:43–16:7*

Jesus did so many things that showed He is the powerful Son of God—things no one else could do. He made people who were blind be able to see. He healed people who couldn’t walk or talk.

**(Show bandage.)**

He fed more than 4,000 people with a small amount

of food. **(Show bread.)** People saw and heard about these things and began to follow Jesus. Some people did not like Jesus because of the things He was doing and teaching. They did not believe that Jesus was God’s Son, so they wanted to stop Him.

Jesus was arrested, put on trial, and nailed to a cross. **(Show the cross.)** When Jesus died, a Roman army officer who had been watching Jesus said, “This man really was God’s Son!”

After Jesus died, a man named Joseph of Arimathea (AR ih muh THEE uh) placed His body in a tomb.

Three days after Jesus died and was buried, some women went to the tomb very early in the morning. When they got there, they saw that the stone had been rolled away. **(Show stone.)** They went in but did not find Jesus’ body. Instead, there was a man dressed in a white robe who said, “Don’t be afraid. Jesus is not here. He is alive! Go and tell His disciples.”

Jesus is not just someone who lived a long time ago. He has always been with God. This is important for us because He lived, died, and rose to life again to be our Savior, now and forever.

# GROUP TIME

## REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- Say: “Look at our shoebox. What is inside it? Nothing! It is empty, just like Jesus’ tomb! Jesus is alive!”
- Select a child to spin the “Spinner” (pack item 18). Use the number that the spinner lands on to determine which “Day 4 Review Question” (pack item 27) to ask.
- Read aloud the corresponding card. Preschoolers will work together to answer the question.
- Say: “Great job reviewing our Bible story. Our Bible story teaches us that Jesus is alive!”

## REPEAT THE BIBLE VERSE

- Open the Bible to John 8:12. Read the Bible verse paraphrase aloud.
- Invite preschoolers to say the Bible verse with you. Point to the words on the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8) as you repeat them.
- Clap a steady beat and encourage preschoolers to clap with you.
- Repeat the verse with your steady beat.
- Clap faster or slower and repeat the verse with the new tempo. Repeat as time allows.
- Sing “Light of the World” together to practice the Bible verse.

## PRAY TOGETHER

- Thank God that Jesus is alive! Offer opportunities for preschoolers to pray and thank God too.

## FOCUS ON THE POINT

- Call attention to the cloth, cross, and stone again. Ask kids what they remember about these items from the Bible story.
- Mention that Jesus died on the cross, was wrapped in cloth, and was placed in a tomb. Explain that three days later the stone from His tomb was rolled away.
- Call attention to the Day 4 flap on the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6). Ask: “Was Jesus just someone who lived a long time ago?”
- Invite a child to open the flap. Say: “Jesus is alive!”
- Encourage preschoolers to give a friend a high five and say, “Jesus is alive!”

## MAKE A MEMORY

- Turn to page 14 in the Activity Book. Complete the activity together.
- Give each child a Day 4 Memory Maker. Talk about the drawing of the empty tomb. Say: “This picture can help us remember that Jesus died and was placed in a tomb, but He rose to life again. Jesus is alive!”
- Guide the preschoolers to add the Day 4 tags to their Memory Maker bags. Gather the Memory Makers as you prepare to transition to other activities.



## TRANSITION TO BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Describe each Bible-learning activity in the room today.
- Choose a group of three kids. Lead them to say: “Jesus is alive!” together before moving to a chosen activity.





## TAP ON LIGHTS

**Supplies:** tap lights (1 per child) **Extend:** “Book: *Dark to Light*” (pack item 28)

- Prior to the activity, set out the tap lights, one for each child.
- Say: “I will read a question. If the answer is yes, turn the tap light on. If the answer is no, leave the tap light off.” After a yes answer, guide the children to tap their lights off again.
- Did Jesus heal people who could not walk or talk? (*Yes.*)
- Did Jesus make the people go hungry? (*No, He fed them.*)
- Were there some people who did not believe that Jesus is God’s Son? (*Yes.*)
- Was Jesus nailed to a cross? (*Yes.*)
- When women went to the tomb to visit Jesus, did they see a man dressed in a blue robe? (*No, it was a white robe.*)
- Is Jesus alive? (*Yes, Jesus is alive!*)

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Guide preschoolers to sit in a circle. Read “Book: *Dark to Light*” (pack item 31).
- Lead kids to tap on their lights every time they hear the word *light* in the story. Encourage them to tap their lights off when they hear *dark* or *darkness*.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I can think about what happened when Jesus died and rose back to life.

## MAKE A LIGHTCATCHER

**Supplies:** Bible, “Bible Story Picture 4” (pack item 4), “Lightcatcher Templates” (pack item 29), heavyweight paper, clear contact plastic, tissue paper pieces, chenille craft stems, hole punch, scissors **Extend:** flashlight

- Copy “Lightcatcher Templates” (pack item 29) so each child has either an oval or a rectangle frame. Cut out the inner shaded portion. Cut the contact plastic into 6-inch-by-4-inch pieces.
- Help a child peel the backing from the contact plastic and lay it sticky side up. Invite her to choose a frame and lay it on the sticky plastic. Trim sticky portions that extend beyond the frame.
- Tell the child to press tissue paper pieces onto the sticky paper.
- Call attention to “Bible Story Picture 4” (pack item 4) and recall the Bible story. Comment that the tomb was empty because Jesus is alive.
- Help the child read the words.
- Punch a hole at the top of the frame. Thread a chenille stem through the hole and twist ends together to make a hanger.

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Help a child open a Bible to Mark 16 and point to the Bible story.
- Put your finger on Mark 16:6 and explain that the Bible tells us Jesus is alive.
- Give a child a flashlight and help her shine the light on the word *Jesus*.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I can hear that Jesus is alive.

### MAKE A LIGHTCATCHER TIP

- A similar craft option is listed in the VBS 2026 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack (9798384537502). Consult the preschool crafts rotation leader to see if this craft will be used. If not, a craft pack option is available (VBS 2026 Empty Tomb Silhouette Craft Pack [9798384539889]).

# BIBLE—LEARNING ACTIVITIES

## EXPLORE A CAVE

**Supplies:** Bible, “Bible Story Pictures 1–4” (pack items 1–4), “Light Source Pictures” (pack item 10), bookmark, large appliance box, flashlights, tape

- Open both ends of the box. Lay the box on its side to be a “cave” (or tunnel). Tape the “Bible Story Pictures” (pack items 1–4) and “Light Source Pictures” (pack item 10) inside the sides of the box. Mark the Bible at John 8:12 with a bookmark and lay the Bible inside the box. Place flashlights outside the box openings.
- Invite preschoolers to crawl inside the box. They can shine the flashlights inside the box and find the Bible story pictures and “Light Source Pictures.”
- Talk about today’s Bible story. Say that the tomb was like a cave.
- Help a child open the Bible and find the book of John. Say the paraphrase together.
- Encourage them to recall other stories about Jesus.

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Provide markers for preschoolers to draw on the outside or inside of the box, as you choose.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I can think about Jesus, God’s Son.



## MAKE PLAY DOUGH FACES

**Supplies:** “Emotion Cards” (pack item 30), play dough, play dough tools, paper plates, Allergy Alert (see p. 7 to download)

- Show each “Emotion Card” (pack item 30). Say the name aloud and make the faces matching the emotions alongside preschoolers.
- Distribute paper plates and play dough.
- Ask: “How do you think Jesus’ disciples felt when He died? I know it makes me sad to think about people hurting Jesus.”
- Instruct preschoolers to make a sad face out of their play dough.
- Ask: “How do you think the disciples felt when they learned that Jesus was alive again? It makes me very happy!”
- Instruct preschoolers to make a happy face out of their play dough.
- Say: “Although people were sad that Jesus died on the cross, they became very happy when they found out that Jesus is alive.”

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Mix up the cards. Allow a preschooler to select a card. Say the emotion.
- Help preschoolers think of a person from the Bible you have talked about this week who might have felt that way.
- Encourage children to use the play dough to make a similar face to the card selected.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I am happy that Jesus is alive.

## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION MAKE PLAY DOUGH FACES

For an allergy-friendly dough, make cloud dough ahead of time. A simple mix of cornstarch and conditioner (1 part conditioner to 2 parts cornstarch offers sensory exploration time for preschoolers.

## BONUS ACTIVITY

### TRACE SHADOWS

- Spotlight or flashlights
- Various toys
- Paper
- Washable markers
- Line up various toy objects spaced apart. Set up the spotlight or flashlights behind the toys so each of their shadows can be seen on the floor.
- Show preschoolers how to place their papers on the floor and trace the shadows of each animal using a washable marker.
- Allow kids to color in their shadows at the table.
- Ask: “What does it take to make a shadow? Light! Without light we would not have any shadows. Jesus came to be the Light of the world and show us what God is like.”

## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION EXPLORE A CAVE

To add additional light, use glow sticks to frame the pictures on the inside of the cave. Also, create a wheelchair accessible tunnel by using items such as safety cones and pool noodles instead of a box.

## TRANSITION TO ROTATIONS

- Ask kids to line up to move to rotations.
- Place a leader at the front and back of the line for safety.
- Take a list of children’s names with you for emergency info and check at each rotation to account for each child.
- Challenge the kids to count all the lights they can find as they walk to rotation activities. Check ceilings, walls, and floors for lights.

# CLOSING GROUP TIME



**Supplies:** Bible, “Bible Story Pictures 1–4” (pack items 1–4), “Focal Wall” (pack item 6), “Focal Wall Add-ons” (pack item 7), shoebox with Bible story items from Group Time, *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers*

## PLAY A GAME

- Clear the floor of any obstacles. Help preschoolers to sit and form a circle on the floor.
- Call attention to the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6) and invite preschoolers to repeat Today’s Point with you: Jesus is alive!
- Demonstrate how to walk around the outside of the circle while gently tapping each child on the head and saying, “Jesus is,” “Jesus is,” “alive!”
- Choose one child to be *It*. When he taps a child and says, “alive,” the child who is tapped will walk around the circle chasing *It*. *It* should move around the circle as quickly as he can and sit in the spot of the child he tapped. The person who is left standing is now *It*.

## TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY

- Display “Bible Story Pictures 1–4” (pack items 1–4). Place all of the shoebox items near Bible story pictures.

- Select a child to choose one shoebox item. Guide her to place it on the Bible story picture that the item helps her remember.
- Encourage her to share how that item is related to the picture she selected. Assist as needed.

## PRAY AND SING

- Lead preschoolers to pray, thanking God that Jesus is alive!
- Play “Shine The Light.” Lead kids to move with the music and do the motions as indicated in the song.
- Ask preschoolers to sit down. Play “Who Is Jesus?” Tell kids to pat their knees as they sing the song about Jesus.
- Dismiss the children according to your dismissal plan.

### TIPS FOR DISMISSAL

- Follow your church’s dismissal plan.
- Place each child’s personal and take-home items by the door.
- Use one leader to greet at the door to dismiss each child. Allow the other leaders to continue the activities with the children.
- Share special activities that each child enjoyed.
- Encourage those picking up children to come back tomorrow for kids to hear about God’s plan for forgiveness.



# DAY 5

## JESUS IS GOD'S PLAN FOR FORGIVENESS



### BIBLE STORY

Peter Preached  
About Jesus  
Acts 2

### BIBLE VERSE

Jesus said, "I am the light  
of the world."  
*John 8:12* (paraphrase)

### TODAY'S POINT

Jesus is God's plan for forgiveness.

**SPOTLIGHT QUESTION:** Why do I need to respond to Jesus?

Jesus is the only way to receive God's forgiveness.

### LEADER DEVOTION

This week, the focus has been on helping children discover the answer to a spotlight question each day. These questions have laid the foundation for preschoolers to know that Jesus is God's plan for forgiveness.

Today's kids will hear the message Peter preached that immediately led over three thousand people to see their need for a Savior.

Recognizing and believing Jesus is a great teacher, a powerful performer of miracles, and a compassionate servant leader is easy for most of us. The Bible is full of events that lead us to those conclusions. However, James 2:19 reminds us, "You believe that God is one. Good! Even the demons believe—and they shudder." Unless we also acknowledge our desperate need for Him as our Savior—the One who willingly died for our sins and offers forgiveness—we miss the good news of who He truly is. Without Him, we deserve the punishment of death for our sins. In Him, we find grace, redemption, and forgiveness only He can bring.

Children need to understand why they need forgiveness to know why they need to respond to Jesus. Recognizing personal sin is one of the signs a child is ready to decide to follow Jesus. Children must know what sin is and the problem it causes for their relationship with God. Children often define sin as a wrong choice like disobeying parents, cheating on a test, or fighting with a sibling. While those wrong choices are sin, the result of that sin makes them unable to have a relationship with a holy and perfect God. A simple definition of sin that children can easily understand is "anything we think (point to your head), anything we say (point to your mouth), or anything we do (hold out your hands) that does not please God." When children understand the impact of their sin—it separates them from God—they are often ready to answer today's spotlight question: Why do I need to respond to Jesus?

For over one hundred years, the purpose of Vacation Bible School has been to share the gospel with children so that they can understand their need for forgiveness and respond to Jesus. There is no other program, ministry, or movement that has been as effective at reaching children with the gospel than VBS. The Holy Spirit may be opening the hearts and minds of preschoolers to understand that Jesus is God's plan for forgiveness.

### Illuminate Your Heart

- Have you experienced the Holy Spirit piercing your heart in conviction and leading you to repentance? (See Acts 2:37.) When was the last time you were grieved over your sin?
- Spend some time in prayer for each of the children in your care. Ask God to help them begin to understand their need for Jesus.



# INTRO ACTIVITIES



## ROOM PREPARATION

- Prepare pack items (1–8, 13, 16, 28, 31–33) according to the instructions printed on each item.
- Gather the *VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book* (9798384537014) (1 per child). If it is not possible to provide one for each child, purchase a few for the room to use during VBS.

## RECOGNIZE GOOD CHOICES

**Supplies:** tap lights (1 per child)

- Set out a row of tap lights, one for each preschooler.
- Invite each preschooler to sit in front of a tap light.
- Instruct preschoolers to tap the light to turn it on if they think the scenario that is read is a right choice. Instruct preschoolers to leave the tap light off if it is a wrong choice.
  - Listening to your parents
  - Being kind to your brother or sister
  - Not telling the truth
  - Helping a friend in need
  - Not being nice to your friend
- Continue playing by allowing kids to suggest additional choices. Offer assistance as needed.
- Say: “Great job! In today’s Bible story, we will learn about 3,000 people who made the best choice.”

## GUESS THE SHADOW

**Supplies:** “Guess the Shadow” (pack items 31a–b), scissors

- Prepare “Guess the Shadow” (pack items 31a–b) according to the instructions on the item.
- Hold up a shadow card.
- Say: “Today, at Illumination Station, we will guess what these items are by only looking at their shadows. When light shines on an object, it usually creates a shadow. A shadow is important because it shows us the outline of an object that the light is shining on.”
- Allow preschoolers to guess the shadow cards one at a time. Reveal the answer after each round of guessing by lifting up the flap to reveal the image.
- Say: “Those were great answers. Which of these items is the most important? The Bible! The Bible is God’s Word. Today we will hear a story from the Bible about a man named Peter.”



# GROUP TIME



## LOOK FOR MATCHING CARDS

- Challenge preschoolers to look for the “Matching Card” (pack item 16) envelopes that have been hidden around the room. Encourage each child to find one envelope and bring it to the Group Time area.
- Play “Illumination Station” as boys and girls search the room.
- Gather the returned envelopes, remove the cards, and group them together by matches.
- Ask preschoolers which items they would need in the following situations. (*Answers will vary.*)
  - Sing a song to a big group of people.
  - Listen to music with your family.

- Yell out a cheer at a ball game.
- Hear an important message from your teacher.

## INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

- Call attention to “Bible Story Picture 5” (pack item 5). Point to Peter. Say that Peter gave an important message to a big group of people. Show an “ear” card and a “headphones” card. Ask which picture would help boys and girls best hear today’s Bible story.

## TELL THE BIBLE STORY

- Show boys and girls how to pretend to put on “listening ears” as they listen to the Bible story.
- Open the Bible to Acts 2 and continue telling the Bible story.

## GROUP TIME SUPPLIES AND PREP

- Bible
- “Bible Story Picture 5” (pack item 5)
- “Focal Wall” (pack item 6)
- “Focal Wall Add-ons” (pack item 7)
- “Matching Cards” (pack item 16)
- “Puzzle Review” (pack item 32)
- VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book*
- VBS 2026 Memory Maker (9798384538141)*
- VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers* (from leader pack)
- Envelopes
  - Place “Matching Cards” (pack item 16) in envelopes, one card per envelope. Hide them in plain sight around the room.



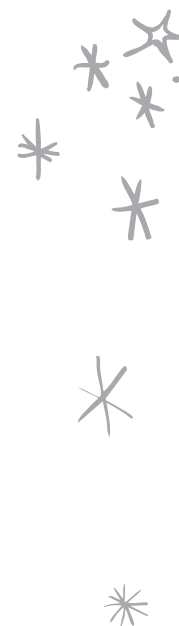
## PETER PREACHED ABOUT JESUS

Acts 2

Followers of Jesus were all together in one place for a celebration. While they were there, God helped them speak in many different languages so they could tell people about Jesus. People were confused about what was happening.

Peter and the other disciples stood up in front of the crowd. Peter reminded the people that they saw Jesus do things no one else could do. (They saw Jesus make sick people well and feed many people with just a little food.) These things proved that Jesus is God’s Son. But just as God knew would happen, some people did not like Jesus and killed Him. Peter reminded the people that Jesus came back to life.

As the people listened to Peter, they were sad. They knew they had disobeyed God (sinned). The people were sorry they had disobeyed God. They wanted to do what God wanted them to do. That day, about 3,000 people decided to become followers of Jesus!





## REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- Say: “The disciples told other people about Jesus. Peter preached to the people and reminded them of the things that Jesus did. Let’s play a game to recall the story.”
- Mix up the “Puzzle Review” (pack item 32) pieces. Set the pieces out in random order with the review questions showing.
- Select a child to pick up the first review question. Read it aloud for the group.
- Invite preschoolers to answer each question as a group. When the answer is said correctly, direct a child to turn over the strip and place it on the floor or table in the correct position in the puzzle.
- Say: “You all did a great job working together to review our Bible story and put our puzzle together.”

- Ask: “Can you think of a time when you needed to be forgiven or when you needed to forgive someone else?” Allow preschoolers to answer.
- Say: “Peter told people about Jesus, and those people were sorry for how they had disobeyed God. They were happy to learn that Jesus is God’s plan for forgiveness. We can tell people about God’s Son, Jesus, too.”

## PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray and thank God for Jesus. Thank God that people tell about Jesus, the Savior.

## MAKE A MEMORY

- Turn to page 15 in the Activity Book. Complete the activity together.
- Give each child a Day 5 Memory Maker. Talk about the bubble with exclamation point. Explain that mark lets people know that something is really important!
- Say: “This picture can help us remember that we need to tell people about Jesus and how much He loves us.”
- Guide the preschoolers to add the Day 5 tags to their Memory Maker bags. Gather the Memory Makers as you prepare to transition to other activities.



## TRANSITION TO BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Describe each Bible-learning activity in the classroom.
- Invite preschoolers to move to the activities by following specific instructions given such as walk quietly, tiptoe, take giant steps, and so on.



## REPEAT THE BIBLE VERSE

- Open the Bible to John 8:12. Read the Bible verse paraphrase aloud.
- Encourage preschoolers to repeat the verse aloud with you.
- Invite kids to practice the motions to “Light of the World” to review the Bible verse.
- Practice the motions without music so that preschoolers can continue to associate the motions with the Bible verse words.
- Say: “Each of you did a great job remembering our Bible verse together!”

## FOCUS ON THE POINT

- Invite a child to lift the Day 5 flap on the “Focal Wall” (pack item 6) as you say: “Jesus is God’s plan for forgiveness.” Explain that when people disobey God, they need to tell God they are sorry. God forgives people by always loving them and forgetting the wrong choices they made.
- Give examples of things people do that disobey God. (*take things that are not theirs, treat people unkindly, love other things more than God, etc.*)



## TOSS GLOW STICK RINGS

**Supplies:** water bottles, food color, 6 glow stick necklaces (about 22 inches long), index cards, tape

- Place three drops of food color into six full water bottles. Write each word of Today's Point on an index card. Tape an index card on each bottle. Line the six water bottles in order, with the first word being closest to the kids and the last word being the farthest away.
- Activate six glow stick necklaces and form into rings.
- Help preschoolers form a line.
- Say: "When it is your turn, you will throw a glow ring to land it around one of the colorful water bottles. We will read the index card that your ring lands closest to!"
- Repeat until each child has had a turn.
- Repeat Today's Point together.
- Say: "We learned that Jesus is God's plan for forgiveness! God sent Jesus because He loves us."

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Collect the rings and move the bottle that says *Jesus* away from the other bottles. This is the only bottle that will be needed.
- Review John 8:12 together and explain that kids will form another line across from the "Jesus" bottle. The first preschooler in line will run to the bottle and place a ring over the bottle. Challenge him to say the first word of the Bible verse, *Jesus*. The next child in line will run down and remove the ring from the bottle and say the second word of the verse, *said*.
- Continue this pattern until everyone has had a turn.
- Remind preschoolers that Jesus is the Light of the world, and He helps show us what God is like.

### \*KID CONNECTION

I can hear about God's plan for Jesus.

## SEARCH IN RICE

**Supplies:** "Choice Cards" (pack item 33), neon paint, gallon ziplock bags, uncooked rice, plastic bin, tray, Allergy Alert (see p. 7 to download) **Extend:** toy people figures

- Pour 4 cups of rice and 10 tablespoons (approximately 6 ounces) of neon paint into a gallon ziplock bag. Mix together. Lay the rice out to dry on a tray for a couple of hours. Break the rice apart, if needed, and pour into a plastic bin. Repeat for all colors.
- Bury "Choice Cards" (pack item 33) in the rice.
- Say: "In our Bible story, Peter chose to stand up and tell people about Jesus. He told them how Jesus died on the cross and then came back to life again. We are going to search for cards to show people making either right or wrong choices."
- As a preschooler discovers a card, show the card to the group. Work together to decide if it is a right or a wrong choice.
- Say: "Jesus is God's plan for forgiveness. We can make a right choice to tell other people about Jesus."

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Add toy people figures to the rice for preschoolers to continue playing.
- Say: "Many people in today's story heard about Jesus. Who are some people you can tell about Jesus?"

### \*KID CONNECTION

I can learn about Jesus.

### SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION



#### TOSS GLOW STICK RINGS

Noticing a child may have difficulty tossing the ring, allow her to toss the ring to the bottle closest to her. Ask the child which bottle she would like to ring and give visual cues with a pointer. Point to the bottle the child chose.

### SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION



#### SEARCH IN RICE

Put a piece of painter's tape down the middle of a table. Label one side *right choice* and the other side *wrong choice*. When a child pulls the card out of the rice, guide him put it on the table and in the correct column.



# BIBLE—LEARNING ACTIVITIES

## BONUS ACTIVITY TELL THE MESSAGE

- Invite preschoolers to sit in a circle with you.
- Say: “Peter told people an important message about Jesus. A lot of those people decided to follow Jesus! We get to tell our friends an important message today too!”
- Whisper: “Follow Jesus” to the preschooler on your right.
- Instruct her to repeat what she heard to the person on her right.
- Continue the pattern until every preschooler has heard the message. The last preschooler to hear the message will repeat what he heard aloud to the group.
- Repeat this activity using the phrase, “Jesus loves you.”
- Say: “A lot of people decided to follow Jesus when they heard what Peter had to say. We can tell other people about Jesus too!”

## TRANSITION TO ROTATIONS

- Direct kids to line up to move to rotations.
- Place a leader at the front and back of the line for safety.
- Take a list of children’s names with you for emergency info and check at each rotation to account for each child.
- Tell kids to search for colors while they walk to rotations. Say: “Let’s find as many things as we can that are red.”



## BUILD A CITY

**Supplies:** Bible, various size cardboard boxes, washable markers **Extend:** toy people figures

- Say: “In our Bible story today, the followers of Jesus were in one city for a special celebration. Peter got to tell a lot of people in that city about Jesus! Let’s build our own block city.”
- Invite preschoolers to use markers to make the boxes look like buildings.
- Encourage preschoolers to draw doors, windows, and people in the windows.
- Arrange the cardboard boxes to form a city.
- Say: “In our Bible story, people came into a city and they heard the good news about Jesus. Many people decided to follow Jesus. We built our own city to remind us about what happened in the book of Acts.”

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Add toy people figures to play out the Bible story.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I can tell recall a Bible story about Peter.



## SPECIAL NEEDS ADAPTATION BUILD A CITY

Allow some interlocking blocks or magnetic tiles to be placed on a table for preschoolers to build while standing up.

## MAKE A MEGAPHONE

**Supplies:** cardboard tubes, markers, *VBS 2026 Theme Stickers* (9798384538158), *VBS 2026 Sticky Foam Shapes* (9798384538134)

- Say: “Peter told the people about Jesus and the things Jesus did. The people in the crowd learned who Jesus is. Let’s make a megaphone that we can use to tell our friends about Jesus too.”
- Invite preschoolers to decorate their cardboard tubes using markers and stickers. Write each child’s name on her tube.
- Say: “Your megaphones look amazing! Now, go around the room and find different friends in our group. Tell them, ‘Jesus is God’s Son’ through your megaphone.”

## EXTEND THE ACTIVITY

- Play “Who Is Jesus?” Invite preschoolers to sing the song through their megaphones to announce who Jesus is.

## \*KID CONNECTION

I can tell others about Jesus.



# CLOSING GROUP TIME

**Supplies:** Bible, “Book: *Dark to Light*” (pack item 28), “John 8:12 Flashlights” (pack item 13), “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8), “Bible Story Pictures 1–5” (pack items 1–5), tub of rice from the “Search in Rice” activity, 5 water bottles and glow stick rings from the “Toss Glow Stick Rings” activity, *VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers*

## READ A BOOK

- Read “Book: *Dark to Light*” (pack item 28).
- Say: “I am thankful that we do not have to live in the darkness. When we read our Bibles, we get to learn who Jesus is. Jesus is the Light of the world. He shows us what God is like. Jesus came because He loves us!”

## PLAY A GAME

- Hide “John 8:12 Flashlights” (pack item 13) in the tub of rice. One at a time, lead kids to find a flashlight card and bring it to the group.
- When all the cards have been found, work together to put them in the correct order, saying the Bible verse as preschoolers work.
- Open the Bible to John 8:12 and read the verse. Show the “Bible Verse Poster” (pack item 8).
- Challenge the children to say the verse with you.

## PRAY AND SING

- Pray, thanking God for Jesus. Thank God that people can learn about Jesus by reading the Bible and listening to Bible stories.
- Allow each child an opportunity to pray: “Thank You, God, for Jesus.” (If a child chooses not to pray, respect his choice.)
- Play and sing “Bright In Me.” Lead kids to use motions with the song.

## RECALL BIBLE STORIES

- Arrange the water bottles in a line from left to right. Place a “Bible Story Picture” (pack items 1–5) in front of each water bottle.
- Instruct preschoolers to form a line.
- Preschoolers will toss a glow stick ring to try and land it around one of the water bottles. When a child throws a ring, ask her to tell something she remembers from or sees in that bottle’s Bible story picture.
- Repeat until each child has played.
- Say: “Each of you learned so much this week about what the Bible teaches us about Jesus!”
- Dismiss the children according to your dismissal plan. Be sure preschoolers take all their belongings and their Memory Makers with them.



## TIPS FOR DISMISSAL

- Follow your church’s dismissal plan.
- Place all personal and take-home items from the week by the door.
- Let one leader greet the parents while the other leaders interact with the children doing activities.
- Thank parents for bringing their child to VBS! Invite their family to church on Sunday and future events at the church.

# SUPPLIES

## LEADER TIP

The supply lists shown by day include only items that need to be purchased or collected. Lifeway resources and daily resources are listed separately. Please refer to your leader guide each day to ensure you have everything you need.

## DAILY RESOURCES

Gather these supplies for use each day.

- Bibles
- Construction paper, assorted colors
- Crayons
- Daily pack items
- Easel
- Glue and glue sticks
- Hole punch
- Markers (permanent, washable)
- Music device
- Painting smocks
- Paper, copy—assorted colors, including white
- Paper, heavyweight
- Paper towels
- Paintbrushes, watercolor and others
- Pencils, plain and colored
- Plastic bowls and other containers
- Scissors (child and adult)
- Stapler and staples
- Tape—clear, masking, painter's, and packing
- VBS 2026 Music for Preschoolers*
- VBS 2026 Memory Maker* (9798384538141) (1 per child)
- VBS 2026 Preschool Activity Book* (9798384537014)
- VBS 2026 Tablecloths* (9798384538189)

## TEACHING HELPS

These resources may be purchased by ordering online at [lifeway.com/vbs](http://lifeway.com/vbs) or by calling 1.800.458.2772.

- VBS 2026 3s–Pre-K Leader Pack* (9798384537458)
- VBS 2026 3s–Kindergarten Rotation Pack* (9798384537502)
- CSB® Read to Me Bible* (9781433648632)
- VBS 2026 Theme Stickers* (9798384538158)
- VBS 2026 Sticky Foam Shapes* (9798384538134)
- VBS 2026 Logo Stickers* (9798384538295)

## DAY 1

### INTRO ACTIVITIES

#### Decorate a Sun

- Heavyweight paper
- Yellow and orange tissue paper squares

#### Learn a Name

- No supplies needed

#### Group Time

- Giant Inflatable Game Cube* (9781087779812)
- Tap light
- Flashlight
- Sticker name tags

### BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

#### Discover with Shaving Cream

- Gallon ziplock bags
- Shaving cream
- Clear packing tape

#### Find the Flashlights

- Extend:** flashlight

#### Explore a Light Box

- 8-by-10-inch foam sheets
- Dull pencils
- Cardboard box
- Utility knife (adult use only)
- Flashlights or other battery-powered lights
- Extend:** tissue paper squares

### Design Name Cards

- Large white index cards or white paper squares
- Washable neon stamp pads
- Hand wipes

### BONUS ACTIVITY

#### ROLL-A-CUBE

- Flashlight

### CLOSING GROUP TIME

- Glow sticks
- Sticky notes
- Flashlight

## DAY 2

### INTRO ACTIVITIES

#### Freeze Dance

- Flashlight

#### Make a Match

- Daily Resources and pack items only

### GROUP TIME

- Strip of blue paper long enough for kids to sit beside
- Silver or white crayons
- Circular object such as a plastic cookie cutter or ball
- Brass paper fastener
- Sticky notes

### BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

#### Jump in Order

- Daily items only

#### Sink or Float

- Allergy Alert listing any nature or food items
- Plastic tub
- Water
- Sink-or-float objects (rubber duck, sandal, rock, coins, keys, interlocking block, rubber ball, etc.)
- Towels
- Extend:** bucket, additional sink-or-float objects

#### Play Instruments in Water

- Clear packing tape
- Large tub with water
- Household items to use as instruments (stainless steel bowls and lids, plastic mixing spoons, plastic canister, plastic buckets)
- Towels

### Paint with Watercolors

- White heavyweight paper
- Watercolor paints
- Paintbrushes
- Water
- Plastic cups
- VBS 2026 Tablecloths* (9798384538189) (optional)
- Towels
- Extend:** yarn

### BONUS ACTIVITY

#### MAKE PROJECTORS

- Small paper cubs
- Wide transparent tape
- Flashlights

### CLOSING GROUP TIME

- Beanbag

## DAY 3

### INTRO ACTIVITIES

#### Pick Which Food Is Better

- No supplies needed

#### Play With a Doctor Kit

- Toy doctor kits
- Gauze bandage rolls
- Adhesive bandages (latex free)
- Cotton balls
- Craft sticks

### GROUP TIME

- Unopened canned food item
- 2 small baskets
- Craft sticks

## BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### Taste Cinnamon Bread

- Allergy Alert
- Bread slices
- Paper plates
- Fish-shaped cookie cutters
- Melted butter
- Cinnamon-sugar mix
- Small containers
- Small shakers
- Plastic spoons
- Toaster or griddle
- Extend:** different flavors of gelatin powder, additional small shakers

### Help a Hurt

- Adhesive bandages (latex free, 4 per child)

### Crawl Through a Light Prism

- Different colors of crepe paper
- Mini white string lights
- Light prism

### Find What Comes Next

- Daily Resources and pack items only

### BONUS ACTIVITY

#### SEARCH FOR IT

- Flashlight

### CLOSING GROUP TIME

- Equal lengths of ribbon

## DAY 4

### INTRO ACTIVITIES

#### Copy Shadows

- Spotlight or strong flashlight

#### Cut Straws and Paper

- Neon straws
- Neon paper
- Shallow plastic bin
- Paper punches

### GROUP TIME

- Shoe box
- Adhesive bandage
- Piece of bread (post an Allergy Alert if using real bread)
- Blue construction paper
- Black marker

- Name tag
- Gray construction paper
- Small cross
- Piece of cloth

## BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### Tap on Lights

- Tap lights

### Make a Lightcatcher

- Heavyweight paper
- Clear contact plastic
- Tissue paper pieces
- Chenille craft stems
- Extend:** flashlight

### Explore a Cave

- Bookmark
- Large appliance box
- Flashlights

### Make Play Dough Faces

- Play dough
- Play dough tools
- Paper plates

### BONUS ACTIVITY

#### TRACE SHADOWS

- Spotlight or flashlights
- Various toys

### CLOSING GROUP TIME

- Shoebox with Bible story items from Group Time

## DAY 5

### INTRO ACTIVITIES

#### Recognize Good Choices

- Tap lights

#### Guess the Shadow

- Daily Resources and pack items only

### GROUP TIME

- Envelopes

## BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### Toss Glow Stick Rings

- Water bottles
- Food color
- 6 glow stick necklaces (22 inches long)
- Index cards

### Search in Rice

- Allergy Alert
- Gallon ziplock bags
- Uncooked Rice
- Plastic bin
- Tray
- Extend:** toy people figures

### Build a City

- Various size cardboard boxes
- Extend:** toy people figures

### Make a Megaphone

- Cardboard tubes

### BONUS ACTIVITY

#### TELL THE MESSAGE

- No supplies needed

### CLOSING GROUP TIME

- Tub of rice from "Search in Rice"
- 5 water bottles and glow stick rings from "Toss Glow Stick Rings"

# ACTIVITY—BASED DECORATIONS

For added fun for your classroom, try these ideas. Preschoolers' imaginations and creativity will soar with just a few little additions to your teaching space.

## LIGHT UP A NEON SENSORY BIN

- Large storage tub
  - Neon aquarium gravel
  - Thick glow sticks
  - Glow-in-the-dark rocks
  - Glow-in-the-dark stars
  - White feathers
  - Small UV (black light) flashlights
- Gather a mixture of the items listed above or add other preferred neon, white, or glow-in-the-dark items.
  - Provide black light flashlights for kids to explore the glowing items.

Dim the lights to see a brighter glow. Be sure to follow all safety and security procedures.

## Build Reflecting Light Towers

- CDs
  - Large and small cardboard tubes
  - Assortment of plastic or paper cups
  - Basket
  - Flashlight
- Provide a basket of assorted CDs, cardboard tubes, and cups.
  - Encourage preschoolers to stack the supplies in different ways to make towers.
  - Observe all the colors on the CDs as light is reflected on them. For extra fun, give a leader a flashlight to shine on the CDs and see different color patterns.

## CREATE GLOW-IN-THE-DARK CLOUD DOUGH

- Baby lotion
  - Cornstarch
  - Glow-in-the-dark or fluorescent paint
  - Mixing bowl
  - Mixing spoon
  - Ziplock bags
  - Allergy Alert (see p. 7 to download)
- Put  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup of baby lotion into a mixing bowl. Add in a few drops of paint. Stir well.
  - Add  $\frac{2}{3}$  cup of cornstarch to the mixture. Stir ingredients together until it becomes difficult to stir. Knead dough until mixture becomes smooth.
  - Add baby lotion or cornstarch until desired consistency is reached.
  - Store cloud dough in ziplock bags.

## Make a Bright Light Board

- Peg boards (4)
  - Black spray paint
  - Zip ties
  - Neon golf tees
- Spray paint the peg boards black and let dry.
  - Stand boards up, forming a square.
  - Use the peg holes to zip tie ends together, every other peg hole or so.
  - Provide neon golf tees for preschoolers to place in the pegs making colorful designs, suggested letters, or simple objects related to the Bible story.



# LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Jesus said<sup>1</sup>  
I am the light of the world  
Light of the world<sup>2</sup>  
Jesus said<sup>1</sup>  
I am the light of the world  
Light of the world<sup>2</sup>

**The light of the world<sup>3</sup>**  
**Jesus is<sup>4</sup>**  
**The light of the world<sup>3</sup>**  
**Jesus is<sup>4</sup>**  
**The light of the world<sup>3</sup>**  
**Light of the world<sup>3</sup>**

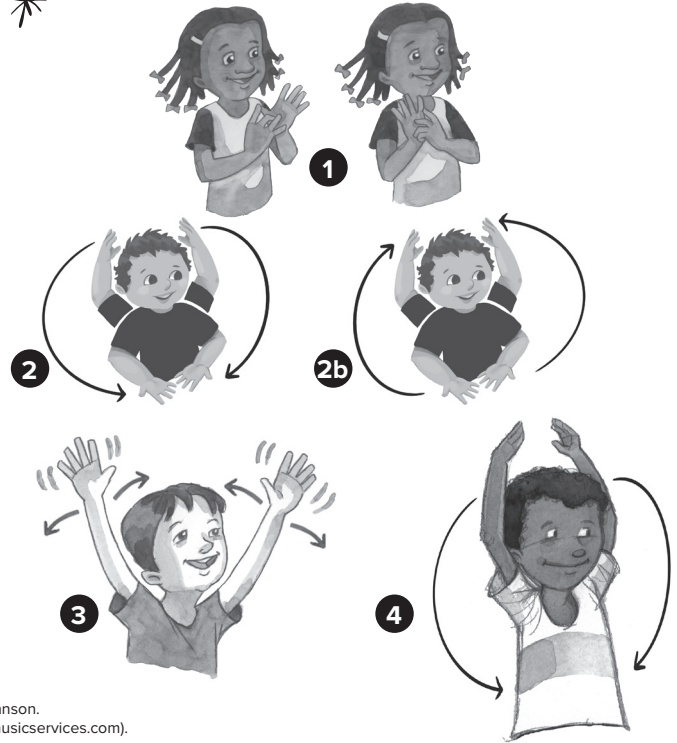
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**The light of the world<sup>3</sup>**  
**Jesus is<sup>4</sup>**  
**The light of the world<sup>3</sup>**  
**Jesus is<sup>4</sup>**

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**Jesus is<sup>4</sup>**  
**The light of the world<sup>3</sup>**  
**Jesus is<sup>4</sup>**  
**The light of the world<sup>3</sup>**

**Light of the world<sup>3</sup>**  
**Light of the world<sup>3</sup>**



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# WHO IS JESUS?

Who is Jesus?<sup>1</sup>  
I'll tell you<sup>2</sup> who He is<sup>3</sup>  
Who is Jesus?<sup>1</sup>  
I'll tell you<sup>2</sup> who He is<sup>3</sup>

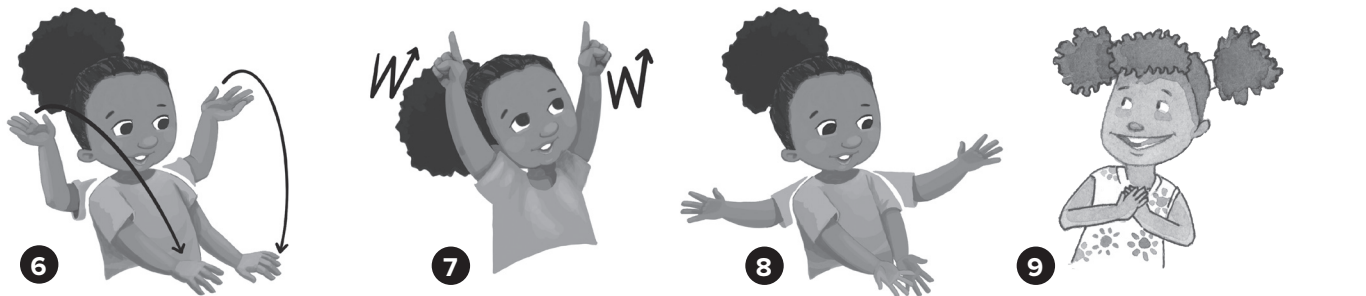
He's the perfect,<sup>4</sup> powerful<sup>5</sup>  
Promised Son of God<sup>6</sup>  
That's who Jesus is<sup>7</sup>

Who is Jesus?<sup>1</sup>  
I'll tell you<sup>2</sup> who He is<sup>3</sup>  
Who is Jesus?<sup>1</sup>  
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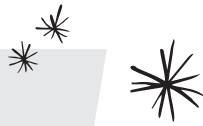
*He's all these things<sup>8</sup>*  
*And He still loves me<sup>9</sup>*  
*All these things<sup>8</sup>*  
*And He still loves me<sup>9</sup>*  
Who is Jesus?<sup>1</sup>  
I'll tell you<sup>2</sup> who He is<sup>3</sup>  
Who is Jesus?<sup>1</sup>  
I'll tell you<sup>2</sup> who He is<sup>3</sup>

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# I CAN BE LIKE JESUS



1



2



3



4



5



6

Jesus obeyed<sup>1</sup>  
 Jesus is kind<sup>2</sup>  
 I can be<sup>3</sup> like Jesus<sup>4</sup>  
 Jesus obeyed<sup>1</sup>  
 Jesus is kind<sup>2</sup>  
 I can be<sup>3</sup> like Jesus<sup>4</sup>

God helps me do what I should do<sup>5</sup>  
 And live the way He wants me to<sup>6</sup>

Jesus obeyed<sup>1</sup>  
 Jesus is kind<sup>2</sup>  
 I can be<sup>3</sup> like Jesus<sup>4</sup>

Jesus obeyed<sup>1</sup>  
 Jesus is kind<sup>2</sup>  
 I can be<sup>3</sup> like Jesus<sup>4</sup>  
 Jesus obeyed<sup>1</sup>  
 Jesus is kind<sup>2</sup>  
 I can be<sup>3</sup> like Jesus<sup>4</sup>

God helps me do what I should do<sup>5</sup>  
 And live the way He wants me to<sup>6</sup>

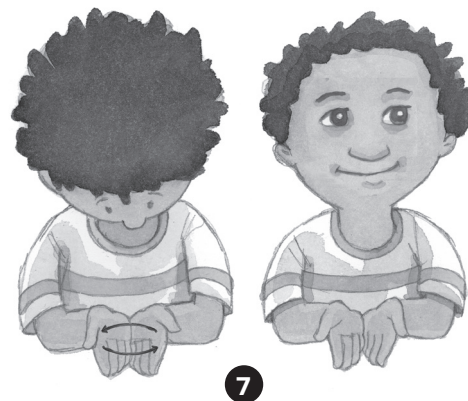
Jesus obeyed<sup>1</sup>  
 Jesus is kind<sup>2</sup>  
 I can be<sup>3</sup> like Jesus<sup>4</sup>

I can be<sup>3</sup> like Jesus<sup>4</sup>

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# THINGS NO ONE ELSE CAN DO



Jesus can do things<sup>1</sup>  
 That no one else can do<sup>2</sup>  
 He did miracles<sup>3</sup>  
 To show me and you<sup>4</sup>  
 That He's the Son of God<sup>5</sup>  
 This I know is true<sup>6</sup>  
 Jesus can do things<sup>1</sup>  
 That no one else can do<sup>2</sup>

**Open up the Bible,<sup>7</sup> you will see<sup>8</sup>**  
**All the things He did<sup>3</sup> were amazing<sup>3</sup>**  
**He fed four thousand<sup>9</sup> with a few little fish<sup>10</sup>**  
**And seven loaves of bread<sup>11</sup>**  
**That's what Jesus did!<sup>3</sup>**

Jesus can do things<sup>1</sup>  
 That no one else can do<sup>2</sup>  
 He did miracles<sup>3</sup>  
 To show me and you<sup>4</sup>  
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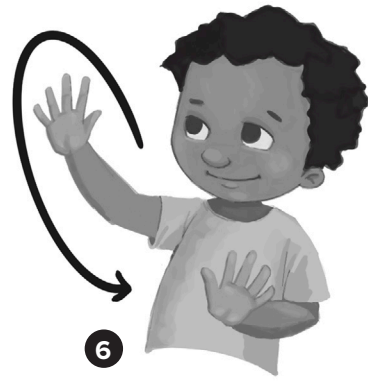
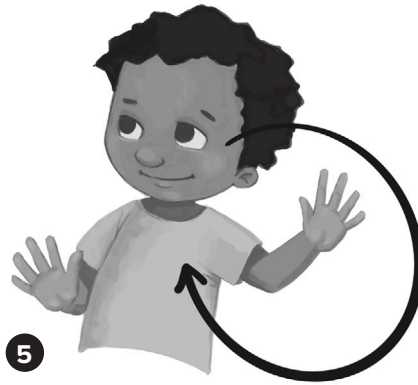
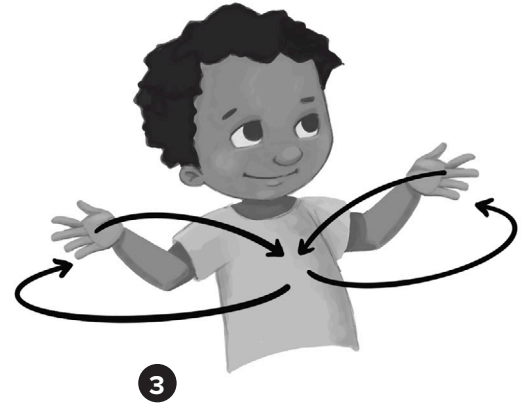
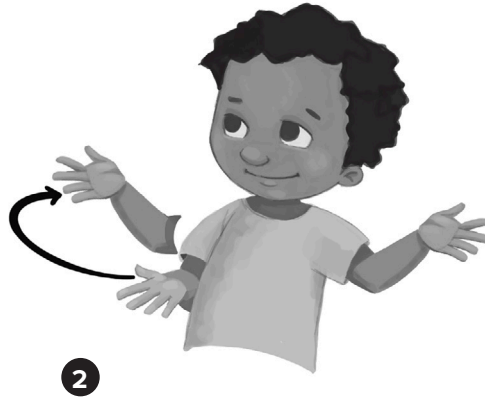
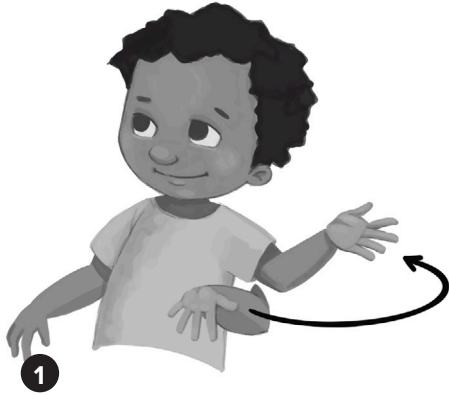
### REPEAT CHORUS

Jesus can do things<sup>1</sup>  
 That no one else can do<sup>2</sup>  
 He did miracles<sup>3</sup>  
 To show me and you<sup>4</sup>  
 That He's the Son of God<sup>5</sup>  
 This I know is true<sup>6</sup>  
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# BRIGHT IN Me



I want to tell people<sup>1</sup>  
 All about Jesus<sup>2</sup>  
 All about what He has done<sup>3</sup> for me<sup>4</sup>  
 I want to tell people<sup>1</sup>  
 All about Jesus<sup>2</sup>  
 Oh how I want them<sup>3</sup> to see<sup>4</sup>

**Jesus<sup>5</sup>**  
**Light of the world<sup>6</sup>**  
**He is all<sup>7</sup> I need<sup>4</sup>**  
**Jesus<sup>5</sup>**  
**I want His light to shine<sup>7</sup> bright in me<sup>4</sup>**

I want to tell people<sup>1</sup>  
 All about Jesus<sup>2</sup>  
 All about what He has done<sup>3</sup> for me<sup>4</sup>  
 I want to tell people<sup>1</sup>  
 All about Jesus<sup>2</sup>  
 Oh how I want them<sup>3</sup> to see<sup>4</sup>

**REPEAT CHORUS (2X)**



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# SHINE THE LIGHT



Shine the light  
 Shine the light<sup>1</sup>  
 Let the love of Jesus<sup>2</sup> shine so bright<sup>3</sup>  
 Shine the light  
 Shine the light<sup>1</sup>  
 Let the love of Jesus<sup>2</sup> shine so bright<sup>3</sup>

**Shine it to the left**  
**Shine it to the right<sup>4</sup>**  
**Shine it to the left**  
**Shine it to the right<sup>4</sup>**

**Shine it straight up**  
**Shine it straight down<sup>5</sup>**  
**Shine it back and forth<sup>6</sup>**  
**Shine it all around<sup>7</sup>**

Shine the light  
 Shine the light<sup>1</sup>  
 Let the love of Jesus<sup>2</sup> shine so bright<sup>3</sup>  
 Shine the light  
 Shine the light<sup>1</sup>  
 Let the love of Jesus<sup>2</sup> shine so bright<sup>3</sup>

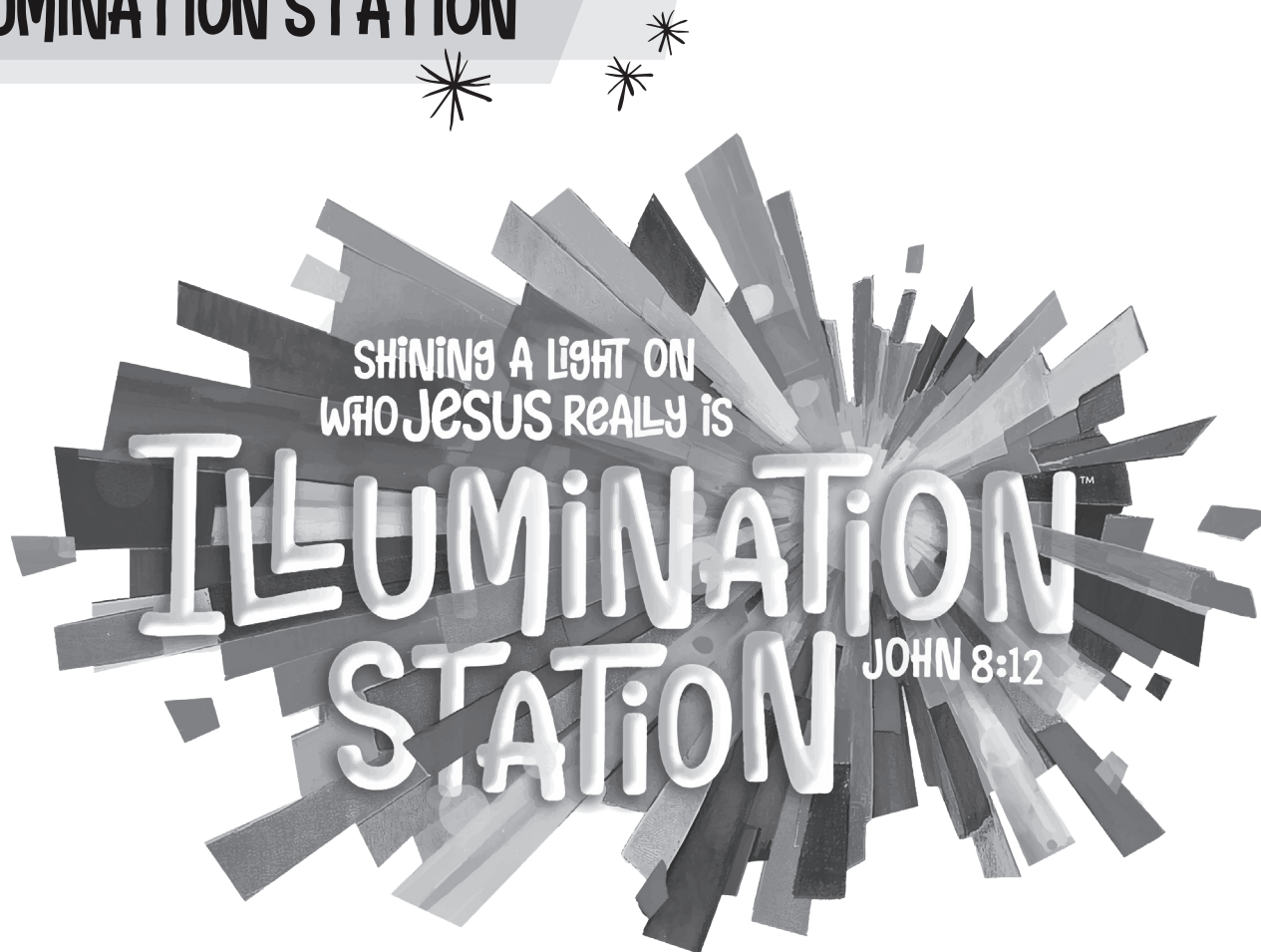
## REPEAT CHORUS

Shine the light  
 Shine the light<sup>1</sup>  
 Let the love of Jesus<sup>2</sup> shine so bright<sup>3</sup>  
 Shine the light  
 Shine the light<sup>1</sup>  
 Let the love of Jesus<sup>2</sup> shine so bright<sup>3</sup>  
 Shine the light<sup>8</sup>



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# ILLUMINATION STATION



**Illumination Station**  
**Join the celebration**  
**Jesus, He is the Light of the world**  
**Illumination Station**  
**Join the celebration**  
**Jesus, He is the Light of the world**

It's time to shine a light on  
Who Jesus really is  
It's time to build a life on  
All that He said and did  
Out of the darkness  
Into His presence  
Jesus shines and never dims!

## REPEAT CHORUS

It's time to see the truth and  
Know how to really live

He shows us what to do when  
We choose to follow Him  
His light is brightest  
His love will guide us  
Hear these words that Jesus said ...

*I am the light of the world*  
*Anyone who follows me*  
*Will never walk in the darkness*  
*But will have the light of life (REPEAT)*

*Illumination Station*  
*Join the celebration*  
*Illumination Station*  
*Join the celebration*

## REPEAT CHORUS

# ILLUMINATION STATION JOHN 8:12

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