



# GOOD NEWS

PRESCHOOL LEADER GUIDE

SESSIONS 1-18  
+ 2 BONUS SESSIONS







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SESSIONS 1–18  
+ 2 BONUS SESSIONS

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Preschool TeamKID: Good News will take kids on a journey through the four Gospel books which tell us about who Jesus is and why He came. TeamKIDs will explore the good news of the Gospels through each book's themes and purposes and learn how each account of the same story seamlessly weaves different details together to share the good news of Jesus and the kingdom of God.

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## WHY TEAMKID?

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TeamKID is a fun, high-energy ministry that encourages kids to know Jesus Christ and to grow in a relationship with Him. That's why TeamKID ends with KID. KID stands for Kids in Discipleship! All parts of TeamKID—Bible stories, Scripture memory, mission activities, life application, and recreation games—connect to teach life lessons to kids.

### WHO IS TEAMKID FOR?

Preschoolers ages 3 through Kindergarten and Children in grades 1–6. Children's materials can be purchased separately at [lifeway.com/teamkid](http://lifeway.com/teamkid).

### WHEN CAN TEAMKID MEET?

Whenever and wherever your imagination finds a time or a need for training kids in discipleship! TeamKID is developed to use in 1 1/2 to 2 hour segments. This schedule is ideal for Sunday gatherings, midweek/group discipleship, or after school programs. TeamKID curriculum can also be adapted for retreats, day camps, and more!

### WHAT DO I NEED FOR TEAMKID?

- A room to accommodate the size of your group
- Space for Games (either in the main room or a secondary room better suited for games)
- Adult volunteers (2 per group or rotation)
- TeamKID Resources
  - TeamKID: Good News Leader Kit
  - TeamKID Good News Activity Books (one per child)
  - TeamKID: Good News Missions DVD (optional)

### HOW DO I GROUP TEAM MEMBERS?

The recommended maximum number of preschoolers in one group is 10–15. If you enroll more than 10–15 children, form an additional TEAM.

#### TEAM OPTIONS:

- 2 TEAMS—Younger (ages 3–4) and Older (PreK–Kindergarten)
- 3 TEAMS— 3s; 4s–PreK, and Kindergarten

Follow the guidelines in each session based on the age levels present in your group. Lead these portions of the session in the same manner for each TEAM.

## WHAT DOES A TEAMKID SESSION LOOK LIKE?

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### **LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)**

Led by the main leader, large group uses fun, innovative methods to make the learning different from other times of learning. The beginning of large group encourages kids to work together by participating in a group activity or game. The coach introduces TeamKIDs to the session content, followed by an interactive Bible study. Kids activate various learning styles and engage in critical thinking skills of key Bible concepts through active learning activities provided in the TeamKID activity book. The group then has the option to separate into age-appropriate groups for deeper discussion and prayer.

### **ROTATION OPTIONS**

#### **BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)**

This rotation of a TeamKID session presents fun, hands-on activities to help kids learn key Bible concepts, work on Scripture memorization, Bible skills, and deeper understanding. There are two activity options available for leaders to customize to maximize the group's schedule.

#### **MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)**

The missions rotation invites kids to experience a missionary and/or missionary family through a missions video or activity. It encourages kids in finding ways they can live “on mission” in their homes and community.

The missions videos are found in the Leader Kit (DVD-ROM or digital downloads). If needed, a separate missions DVD with video content only is sold at [lifeway.com/teamkid](http://lifeway.com/teamkid). TeamKID: Good News Missions DVD (9781087766836)

#### **GAMES (15–20 MINUTES,)**

The games rotation reinforces the truths from the session through high energy games and activities. The recreation leader chooses from up to three TeamKID games, including a unit bonus game to customize the exciting experience for kids. Provide the recreation leader with the TeamKID: Good News Playbook (provided in the Good News Leader Kit) to lead this time. Game explanations, supplies, and debriefing are also found in the leader guide.

#### **CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)**

This final rotation brings all TeamKIDs back together to refocus and recap what was presented in the session. TeamKIDs recall the key points, key verse, and action steps of their time together. They also play a fun game that reinforces key truths as adults arrive to pick up their children for dismissal.

# TEAMKID RESOURCES

The following resources can make running TeamKID: Good News easier for you and more fun for kids.

## **PRESCHOOL TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS LEADER KIT** (9781087766799)

Preschool TeamKID: Good News Digital Leader Kit (9781087778129)

The Leader Kit provides a leader guide, printable downloads, missions videos, and general instructions on setting up and administering TeamKID. The printable downloads contain reproducible items for assisting in teaching each session, and at-home parent connections. This resource can be a one-time purchase per church.



## **PRESCHOOL TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS ACTIVITY BOOKS**

Preschool TeamKID: Good News Activity Book (9781087766829)

The Good News activity books contain materials for 36 sessions of TeamKID + 4 bonus sessions. Use one perforated activity page for each child. Each activity page contains fun activities to help children understand and apply the teaching concept of the session.



## **TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS MISSIONS DVD**

(9781087766836)  
Includes all the missions videos for churches who want to purchase a DVD per missions rotation.

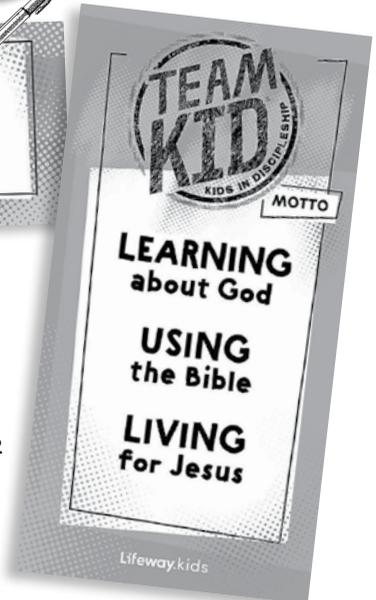


## **TEAM KID BANNER**

(9781415822265) Colorful vinyl banner with the TeamKID logo and space to add your program's details.

## **TEAMKID MOTTO BANNER**

(9781415835333) Large 17" x 33" paper banner with the TeamKID logo and motto.



# PRINTABLES MENU

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- Item 1: Administrative Guide
- Item 2: Volunteer Application Form
- Item 3: TeamKID Registration Card
- Item 4: Allergy Alert
- Item 5: Parent Letter
- Item 6: 15 Easy Steps for Promotion
- Item 7: Teaching a TeamKID Session
- Item 8: TeamKID Folder Stickers
- Item 9: The Gospel: God's Plan for Preschoolers

## UNIT 1: THE PROMISED KING

- Item 10: Unit 1 Parent Connections
- Item 11: Promise Bible Markers
- Item 12: Exploration Cards
- Item 13: Family Bible Markers
- Item 14: David Livingstone's Important Mission Story
- Item 15: David Livingstone Photo
- Item 16: Story Pictures
- Item 17: Message Keeper
- Item 18: Worthy Family Photos with Captions
- Item 19: Follow Me Cards
- Item 20: Even the Airwaves Obey Him Story
- Item 21: Scroll
- Item 22: Luke 6:27 Cards
- Item 23: Lattes for Lottie
- Item 24: Heart
- Item 25: Williams Family Photo

## MISSION VIDEOS

- Missionary Explorer, David Livingstone Gospel Party
- Gospel Fills the Airwaves Bibles and Coffee
- Intro to Amy Carmichael
- Medical Missions Starts Churches
- Gifts of Hope
- How to Send Relief
- What William Carey Left
- Gathering Crowds
- Showing and Sharing

## UNIT 2: THE KING'S POWER

- Item 26: Unit 2 Parent Connections
- Item 27: Matching Cards
- Item 28: Houses
- Item 29: Key Verse Sign
- Item 30: Amy Carmichael Photo
- Item 31: Weaving Mat Template
- Item 32: People
- Item 33: Medical Missions in Thailand Photos
- Item 34: Maps
- Item 35: Play Dough Mats
- Item 36: Send Relief Gifts
- Item 37: Heart Lacing Card
- Item 38: Bible Verse Seeds
- Item 39: Send Relief Helps People
- Item 40: Fish Cutouts
- Item 41: Haun Family Photos

## BONUS SESSIONS

- Item 75: Bonus Parent Connections
- Item 76: Shape Bible Markers
- Item 77: Megaphone Template
- Item 78: Picture Puzzle
- Item 79: Lottie Moon Photo
- Item 80: Real or Not? Cards
- Item 81: Empty Tomb
- Item 82: Annie Armstrong Photo
- Item 83: Key Verse Megaphone

- Hands Giving Hope
- A Legacy
- Reaching the Hard-to-Reach in the Amazon
- Understanding Unreached and Unengaged
- Committing to Reach the Unreached
- Use Your One Life
- Short-term in Russia

# GETTING TO KNOW PRESCHOOL TEAMKIDS

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- Preschoolers love repetition. It's good to repeat activities and bring back favorite games and songs from time to time.
- Preschoolers are hands-on, experiential learners. They LEARN as they DO. Activities are designed to help preschoolers learn in the ways God made them to learn.
- Preschoolers have short attention spans—roughly one minute for every year of age. Be prepared for kids to tire quickly and be ready to move on to something else. Stay flexible during group times and be ready to shorten, repeat, or even skip elements as needed.
- Eyes and ears are always on you. Preschoolers are always watching and listening ... even when you think they are not. Children will learn more from your actions than your words. Be aware that everything you do (or don't do) and everything you say (or don't say) is teaching something.
- Preschoolers are still developing fine and gross motor skills. They skip, hop, and jump well but are still learning to cut with scissors and print words. Be prepared for a wide range of skills among the children you teach. For some kids, the experience of cutting or coloring or painting or stacking blocks may be more important than actually “making” something.
- Preschoolers are capable of internalizing and applying Bible truths. They remember and like to tell Bible stories, can use the Bible, can find Bible verses, and enjoy singing songs about God and Jesus. Kids need to know that they are doing what the Bible teaches.
- Remember that as the teacher, you are “the lesson.” Use a variety of tools (music, games, play, activities, and Bible stories) to teach preschoolers Bible truths
- Don't stress if art projects end up looking much different than imagined. The process is more important than the end result. If kids enjoyed doing it, then it was a success!

## CLASSROOM TIPS

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- The first one in the room is in charge! Make sure it's you and not one of your preschoolers! Being "on time" as a preschool leader is 30 minutes before the session starts.
- Be prepared, but be flexible.
- Have all supplies gathered and prepared before the session starts. This includes having videos cued and ROM items printed and prepared.
- Choose different methods to group kids together, such as clothing colors, shoe styles, birth months, and the like.
- Eliminate straight open areas of your classroom that invite running. Block these "runways" by arranging the furniture in your room in a pattern that discourages out-of-control behavior and helps preschoolers slow down.
- Try setting up Bible-learning activities in different areas of the room and letting kids move freely from activity to activity. This will help kids stay engaged at their own pace!
- Use craft sticks to help when choosing children for games or other activities. Write each child's name on a craft stick and place in a bag. Pull a craft stick to decide which child plays, answers, etc. This will also help when choosing preschoolers to work together. The teacher can pick the first stick and then allow that child to pull another stick to discover who his partner will be.
- Use items such as plastic serving trays, large placemats or laminated 12-by-18-inch construction paper to help define work spaces. Instruct the child that the materials of his activity need to stay on the tray, mat or paper.
- To help quiet a noisy room, begin a game of "If you can hear me..." The teacher begins by saying in a normal voice, "If you can hear me" followed by an action such as "clap your hands." Then, give another action such as, "If you can hear me, pat your knees." Continue the game until all the children are listening and participating in the game. End by giving instructions on what you want the class to do, such as come to group time, etc.
- Avoid delays between activities. Delays invite children to discover their own activities! Always have something up your sleeve for transitions, such as quick games or songs.
- Stop playing a game while interest is still high and before boredom sets in. Children will be more excited about getting to play the game again later.
- Instead of bulletin boards, use tri-fold display boards that can easily be collapsed and put away. These are especially helpful when having to share space with another ministry in your church
- Explain activities and instructions before giving out resources.
- Head off a lot of behavioral challenges simply by being ready to begin as soon as the first child walks into the room. Kids will be less inclined to run wild if teachers are ready and waiting to engage them in activities.
- Relax and have fun!

## SAFETY AND SECURITY

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- Printed copies of church-approved policies are available and consistently followed by teachers and parents.
- Rooms have easy access to running water for teachers to use for washing hands.
- Toys and equipment are washed frequently with a bleach solution. (One tablespoon of bleach per one quart of water mixed for each session.)
- The church follows a policy regarding how to respond when sick children are present at church.
- Leaders have access to information sheets that parents have completed on their children.
- Leaders inspect toys, teaching materials, furnishings, and the playground and remove broken, inappropriate, or unsafe items.
- Allergy alerts are posted outside classrooms informing parents of food activities.
- Only safe plants are used in rooms.
- Leaders have access to a stocked first aid kit.
- Individuals with first aid training are always available when children are presents at church.
- Leaders have easy access to numbers for emergency assistance (including the Poison Control Center).
- The church has a disaster preparedness plan, and teachers are trained to respond. Leaders know the procedures and routes to exit the building and safe locations within the building.
- Leaders know and follow the church policy regarding safety of children in the classroom and on the playground.
- Teachers follow church-approved security procedures for the arrival and departure times of children from the rooms.
- Safeguards against child abuse include screening and supervising leaders, providing windows in classroom doors, placing a minimum of two unrelated adults in rooms, and enlisting leaders who are 18 years old or older.

## ABCs & 123s OF SPECIAL NEEDS TEAMKIDS

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**A. ABILITIES.** Knowing your kids' abilities will best help them thrive at TeamKID. Be sure to ask the parents or guardians some detailed information during registration. Even better, add some of these questions to your early sign up. This allows you time to set a meeting with the parents or guardians over the phone or in person to gain more insight into their child, if needed. Here are a few questions that could be beneficial.

- Does your child read?
- Can your child become overwhelmed in noisy environments? Can you explain what that may look like or give tips to help your child regulate?
- Does your child have any allergies or sensitivities?
- What are the best ways to comfort your child if he becomes upset or frustrated?
- Would your child need help in areas of outside or inside play?
- What are some of your child's favorite snacks, toys, interests, etc.?
- What are your child's strengths?

**B. BEHAVIOR.** Proactive is always better than reactive. Praise specific behaviors that you want to see more of in your kids. Be aware of your children who may struggle with regulation of emotions. Ask parents or volunteers who work with the child to help identify a few things: what triggers unwanted behavior; what helps soothe the child; how you can most effectively communicate with a heightened child, etc. Adding this information to your "toolbox" will be vital if a behavior arises.

**C. CONNECTION.** The power of connection is pertinent. Kids need you to meet them where they are

to be able to access the fun that TeamKID offers. For example, some children may need help during worship. Not all kids can sing and dance, but they can twirl a scarf, shake bells, feel the vibrations of music from a balloon, and the like. You and your volunteers can help provide them with those needs and jump in on the fun with them! In typical human nature, you have now made a connection. A connection that will lead to trust, love, and friendship. What a natural way to display the love that Christ has given us!

**1. SNACKS.** The power of food is incredible. Food can motivate, calm, engage, or center just about anyone in any situation. Be sure that there are no dietary restrictions and let the pack of fruit snacks do the talking.

**2. MANPOWER.** You may need more hands on deck to help all kids have full access to the fun of TeamKID. Designated peer buddies, floaters, and youth buddies work great. Try your best to keep this buddy consistent because with experience come knowledge and trust. You always have more fun with a friend by your side!

**3. LOVE.** "Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love" 1 Corinthians 13:13. Showing up to love these kids, presenting the gospel at their level of understanding, and providing a safe environment to all kids is the key to a successful TeamKID. Pointing these children to the greatest love of all is the main goal. Have the faith that God can. Hope that your kids hear what He is saying. Love these kids as Christ loves us.

## SESSION 1

**THE PROMISE**

TODAY'S POINT: THE BIBLE TELLS ABOUT JESUS.

**BIBLE STORY**

God's Promised One (Genesis 1; 3:13-15; Isaiah 7:10-14; 9:2-7; Micah 5:2; John 1:1-19)

**KEY VERSE**

Jesus is God's Son. (John 20:31)

**PARENT CONNECTION**

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 10).

## AT A GLANCE

**LARGE GROUP**

- 1 book per child (include a variety of topics such as animals or cars—preferably realistic)
- Bible
- Soft playground ball
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Crayons or markers

**BIBLE ACTIVITIES****WHAT'S INSIDE?**

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons

**PROMISE BIBLE MARKERS**

- "Promise Bible Markers" (Item 11)
- Cardstock
- Ribbon
- Stickers
- Markers or crayons
- Hole punch

**MISSIONS**

- "Exploration Cards" (Item 12)
- Colored paper
- Cue the "Missionary Explorer, David Livingstone" video.

**GAMES****GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)**

- Cardstock in various colors
- Markers
- Parachute or large sheet

**DROP AND TELL (P 8)**

- Clothespins
- Jar

**GOING ON A BIBLE HUNT (P 9)**

- Bible
- Tape

**CLOSING**

- Soft playground ball
- "Parent Connection" (Item 10)
- Strips of blue, green, purple, black, and red construction paper

## LEADER DEVOTION

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### OPEN THE BIBLE

Read John 1:1-19 (a description of Jesus) from your Bible or Bible app. Note how John described Jesus and who he said Jesus is.

### STUDY

In today's culture we are not accustomed to waiting. We pop our food into the microwave or Instant Pot® to reduce cooking times. We rush through the drive-through to grab a quick meal. Want an answer to a problem or question—just search the internet for it.

This was not the case in Bible times. Imagine waiting for God to send the promised Messiah. In Genesis 3:15 we get the first glimpse of God's plan to send a Savior to rescue mankind from the curse of sin and death. Then, many years later, God again sent word of His promise through the prophet Isaiah. The Israelites had a long wait to see God's promise fulfilled. Can you imagine waiting more than 700 years for something? No doubt, as is evidenced in the Bible, the Israelites spent a lot of time wondering and doubting if God would keep His promise.

We have the advantage of looking back through history and through the pages of our Bibles to see that God is faithful, He keeps His promises, and does what He says He will do. Although, like the Israelites, we may spend time wondering and doubting, we know that Jesus is God's Son and His timing is perfect.

### CONSIDER

- Consider how the world received Jesus.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Ponder over how you have received Jesus in your own life.

### PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Use some of the descriptive words about Jesus in John 1:1-19 as a prayer of praise.
- Ask God to help you lead preschoolers to learn more about Jesus and the Bible. Thank God for being faithful to His promises.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: 1 book per child (include a variety of topics such as cars or animals—preferably realistic); 1 Bible. Hide books around the room so they can be easily found.*

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Invite the preschoolers to look around the room to find the books you have hidden.

Encourage kids to continue to search for and hide the books until most children have arrived.

Direct the children to bring one of the books they found to the table. Discuss what each book is about and the types of stories or information they include.

Point out the Bible. Tell the kids that the Bible is a very special book. Emphasize that **the Bible tells us about Jesus**.

Gather the books and invite the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: GOD'S PROMISED ONE (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); soft playground ball*

Gather preschoolers on the floor or in chairs.

- **Ask:** “Can someone tell the group what a promise is? (Saying you will or will not do something.) Have you ever promised someone something or has someone ever made a promise to you?”

Discuss answers to the question as time permits. Ask how hard it was to wait for the promise to happen. Talk about how kids felt when a promise was not kept. Were they disappointed or maybe even angry?

- **Say:** “We’re going to hear today about a promise that God made a very long time ago and how He kept His promise! We can learn that God always keeps His promises.”

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

Leader Tip:  
Mark your Bible  
at Genesis 1:1;  
Isaiah 9:7; John 1:2.

**GOD'S PROMISED ONE**  
**BASED ON GENESIS 1; 3:13-15; ISAIAH 7:10-14; 9:2-7;**  
**MICAH 5:2; JOHN 1:1-19**

.....

- The whole Bible is true. God told men to write down important things we need to
- know. But the most important thing the Bible tells us is that God sent His Son,
- Jesus, so that we could know how much God loves us.

Ask a child to pull the marker from the Bible marking Genesis 1:1. Read Genesis 1:1.

- “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” The Old Testament tells
- us about when God created the world and everything in it. But God also told men
- called “prophets” to write important words in the Old Testament to tell us about
- His Son, Jesus. Some of these Bible verses tell us that Jesus would be part of King
- David’s family. The Bible book of Micah tells where Jesus would be born.

Ask if anyone knows the name of the city where Jesus was born. (Bethlehem)

- Still more verses tell us about things that Jesus would do—like heal sick people. All
- of these things, though, were written hundreds of years before Jesus was born!

Choose another child to open your Bible to the marker at Isaiah 9:7.

- In the book of Isaiah, which is in the Old Testament, it says: “He will reign (or
- rule) on the throne of David.” This verse is talking about Jesus! King David lived
- hundreds of years before Jesus was born, but this verse tells us that Jesus would
- be part of David’s family and would someday be the King.

Help preschoolers understand that this is much like you knowing who your own grandkids’ grandkids will be—even before they are born!

- The New Testament tells us about Jesus, too. It helps us understand that Jesus is
- God’s Son and that He was with God even before the world was created!

Ask a child to help you with the last Bible marker at John 1:2 and read.

- “He was with God in the beginning.” The New Testament tells about the time just
- before Jesus was born on earth, His birth and life, how Jesus’ friends told about
- God’s love, and what will happen even in the future!
- God promised in the Bible that He would send His Son, Jesus, and He did. God
- even told where Jesus would be born and what He would do. That happened, just
- as God said! Jesus is the Son God promised. We can know that God always keeps
- His promises to us. He loves us and He always will.

## GOING DEEPER

Direct the children to sit in a circle if they are not doing so already. Explain that they will pass a Bible around the circle from one to another. When you say, “Pause,” the child holding the Bible will repeat one of the following Bible truths after you.

- The Bible is true.
- God told men to write what He wanted us to know.
- God sent His Son, Jesus, to show how much He loves us.
- We can read about Jesus’ family.
- We can read about things that only Jesus can do.
- **The Bible tells about Jesus.**

Play several rounds allowing each child to have a turn repeating a truth after you.

Allow children one at a time to hold the Bible. Encourage each one to share one thing he learned about Jesus today and to name a friend he can tell.

Be prepared to prompt children to recall specific truths about Jesus from the story. You may also need to prompt them with ideas about who they can tell what they learned.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Roll the ball to a child and ask her one of the questions. Help her answer if she has trouble recalling the answer. Ask the following review questions:

- Why did God send His Son, Jesus? (So that we could know how much God loves us.)
- What does the Old Testament tell us about? (When God created the world and everything in it; Jesus would be King; where Jesus would be born, etc.)
- What does the New Testament tell us about? (Jesus is God’s Son and He was with God before the world was created; about the time just before Jesus was born, His birth and life, etc.)
- What promises did God keep in this story? (That He would send His Son, where Jesus would be born, and what Jesus would do)

## CONNECT: PUT THE BOOKS IN ORDER

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

Invite kids to open their Activity Books to page 6.

Direct preschoolers to draw a line from the book on the top shelf to the matching book on the bottom shelf. Suggest that they trace the word from the book on the top shelf onto the book on the bottom shelf to learn one thing the Bible tells us about Jesus.

Discuss the answers as time permits.

## PRAY

Lead children to thank God for directing men to write down what He wants us to know in the Bible. Thank Him for giving us the Bible to learn about His Son, Jesus. Thank God for always keeping His promises. Encourage children to pray if they are willing.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### WHAT'S INSIDE?

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the What's Inside? activity on page 5.
- Take time to discuss each of the books on the page. Ask kids which one would tell them about Jesus.
- Lead preschoolers to recall some of the things God told us about **Jesus in the Old Testament**. (He would be part of King David's family; He would someday be King; where Jesus would be born; what Jesus would do; and so forth.)

**Leader Tip:**  
If you do not have the Activity Book, hold up each of the books you hid around the room in the opening activity and ask kids to tell you what each one tells about.

### PROMISE BIBLE MARKERS

*Provide: "Promise Bible Markers" (Item 11); cardstock; ribbon; stickers; markers or crayons; hole punch. Copy and cut out a Bible marker for each TeamKID. Punch a hole near the top edge of each bookmark.*

- Give each child a "Promise Bible Marker." Read the word promise and explain that a promise is when you say you will or will not do something.
- Invite the kids to decorate their Bible markers with the crayons and stickers. As they work, ask them to recall what promise God made in the story. (He would send His Son, Jesus.) Discuss with kids how God made many promises in the Bible. He has kept every one of them and will continue to do so.
- Assist kids in folding a ribbon in half and looping it through the hole in the top of the Bible marker.
- Say: "God made promises in the Bible and He wants us to read the Bible to learn more about Jesus. You can use your Bible marker when you read your Bible."

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: "Exploration Cards" (Item 12); colored paper. Print the Exploration Cards on colored paper and hide them around the room. Copy enough for each preschooler to find at least one. Cue the "Missionary Explorer, David Livingstone" video.*

- **Say:** "We're going to learn about a missionary explorer named David Livingstone, who lived a long time ago. He explored places in Africa, but what he really wanted to do was find people who needed to hear about Jesus."

Play the missions video.

Invite preschoolers to walk around the room and look for the colored cards with pictures of things David Livingstone found as he explored. Guide preschoolers to find one card then sit down with you in a circle.

When they each have a card, invite preschoolers to take turns showing their cards and identifying the pictures.

- **Say:** "David found these things when he was exploring new places, but he also took a Bible and the story of Jesus to the people he met. That's why we call him a missionary explorer."

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- In this game, preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words to this session's Key Verse or Today's Point. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Key Verse or Today's Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying some Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today's Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### DROP AND TELL (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 8)

- In this game, kids will drop a clothespin into a jar while telling where they were born or where they live now. Additional rounds can be played in which kids recall details from the Bible story, Today's Point, or Key Verse.
- Recall how men wrote in the Old Testament that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem. Remind preschoolers that everything God told the men to write about Jesus in the Old Testament came true in the New Testament just as God said it would.

### GOING ON A BIBLE HUNT (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 9)

- In this game, you will lead children through a series of directions to reach the Bible at the end of the taped course. Once kids arrive at the Bible they will hear Today's Point and discuss things the Bible tells us about Jesus.
- Ask a child to pull the slip of paper from the Bible. Read Today's Point aloud. Remind the kids that when we seek and search through our Bibles we will learn about Jesus. Lead kids to recall some things they learned about Jesus today from the Bible story.

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: Soft playground ball*

Ask review questions from the Bible story (used in Bible study time).

Remind TeamKIDs that God told men to write down important things we need to know in the Bible and that **the Bible tells about Jesus**.

Roll the ball to a child and ask her to say one thing she remembers about Jesus from today's session. Repeat the activity until all children have had a turn. If a child struggles with his answer, suggest that he ask a friend to help him.

### PRAY

Ask God to help preschoolers remember that Jesus is God's Son and the Bible tells us about Him. Ask God to help them tell others what they know about Jesus.

### DISMISS

*Provide: "Parent Connection" (Item 10); strips of blue, green, purple, black, and red construction paper. Copy a "Parent Connection" for each TeamKID. Print one word from Today's Point—"The Bible tells about Jesus" on the strips of construction paper. Place each strip of paper on the table or floor.*

*Leader Tip:  
Allow younger children to guess the missing color and name something God made that is that color.*

Direct the preschoolers to close their eyes and cover them with their hands.

Remove one strip of paper while the kids have their eyes covered. Ask the children to open their eyes and guess which color is missing.

Lead the children to read the words on the strips supplying the word that was on the missing strip as they read. Repeat adding and removing strips as you play.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 2

# THE FAMILY

TODAY'S POINT: GOD PLANNED A FAMILY FOR JESUS.

### BIBLE STORY

The Family of Jesus (Matthew 1:1-25; Luke 1:26-56; Luke 3; John 1:1-19)

### KEY VERSE

Jesus is God's Son. John 20:31

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 10).

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles
- Cardstock
- "Family Bible Markers" (Item 13)
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons

### WHO IS IN MY FAMILY?

- 12-by-18-inch sheets of black construction
- Child scissors (1 pair per child)
- Colored chalk
- Small cups or bowls of water
- Hair spray (leader use only)

### MISSIONS

- "David Livingstone's Important Mission Story" (Item 14)
- "David Livingstone Photo" (Item 15)
- Strands of yarn or ribbon

### GAMES

#### GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)

- Cardstock in various colors
- Markers
- Parachute or large sheet

### PUZZLE RELAY (P 10)

- 2 large sheets of paper
- Marker
- Tape
- Scissors
- Basket

### FIND THE FAMILY (P 11)

- People figures
- Music

### CLOSING

- "Family Bible Markers" (Item 13)
- "Parent Connection" (Item 10)
- Painter's tape
- Clean, empty can
- Strips of paper
- Family or smiley face stickers
- Scissors

# LEADER DEVOTION

## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 1:46-56 (Mary's response to God) from your Bible or Bible app. Take time to consider how Mary described herself and how she described God.

## STUDY

My husband and I adopted our daughter from another country. A couple of years later God blessed us with another child, this time biological. At times when our daughter was angry or frustrated, her response to the situation would be to tell me she didn't want to be a part of this family anymore. My standard response to her during these times was, "God placed you in our family. He decided that we would be your parents, that you would have a brother, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. God doesn't make mistakes, so this is the family He wanted you to be part of."

Just as God has planned and placed each of us in the family we are in, He planned a family for Jesus. It was not an accident that Mary and Joseph were selected to be Jesus' earthly parents, to take care of and raise Him. In Matthew 1 we see how God put His plan in motion starting with His promise to Abram. (See Genesis 17:1-5.) He carried that promise to fulfillment through King David and on down to selecting Joseph to be Jesus' earthly father. (Matthew 1:1-17) The Bible even shares with us how God planned for John, Jesus' cousin, to be born (Luke 1:39-45) and to play a key role in announcing Jesus as the Messiah. God left nothing to chance and placed Jesus in just the right family.

## CONSIDER

- Consider what your response is to God's plan for your family.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Ponder over the things He has done in and through your family.

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Pray through Luke 1:46-56 as a prayer of praise.
- Ask God to help you share with preschoolers how much He loves them and how He has planned their family for them just as He prepared Jesus' family for Him.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY: IN MY FAMILY (5–10 MINUTES)

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Invite the preschoolers to sit in a circle with you.

Explain to preschoolers that they will play a game called, “In My Family ... .” Start off by asking preschoolers to clap their hands and tap their knees in a repeating pattern. Repeat the pattern several times for preschoolers to get the rhythm.

Tell preschoolers that at some point as they are repeating the pattern, you will point to a child and he will stop the pattern and say, “In my family I have ... .” The child will fill in the blank with something to complete the phrase such as, “two sisters; fun playing; a dog,” and so on. Be sensitive. Because of life circumstances, you may have very different answers. Try to affirm all.

Continue clapping and tapping the pattern and pointing to different preschoolers. Invite any new arrivals to join the circle and continue the game.

- **After everyone has had a chance to answer say:** “God planned for your family to include things you mentioned in our game. **God planned a family for Jesus, too.**”

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: THE FAMILY OF JESUS (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); cardstock; “Family Bible Markers” (Item 13). Print and cut out the markers. Place the Abram, King David, and Joseph markers at Matthew 1:18 in your Bible. Place the Mary marker at Luke 1:26 in your Bible. Place the Elizabeth marker at Luke 1:35 in your Bible. Place the John marker at Luke 3 in your Bible.*

*Leader Tip:  
Mark your Bible at  
Matthew 1:18;  
Luke 1:26;  
Luke 1:35; and  
Luke 3*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Share the following:

- **The Bible has two main parts.** (Hold up two fingers.)
- **The Old Testament is in the front of the Bible.** (Hold out left palm. If children are mirroring you, hold out right palm instead.)
- **The New Testament is in the back of the Bible.** (Hold out right palm. If children are mirroring you, hold out left palm instead.)
- **Together, they make the Bible.** (Clap hands together.)

Remind preschoolers that God told many people what to write in the Bible and that the Bible tells us about Jesus.

- **Say:** “One of the things the Bible tells us about Jesus is that **God planned a family for Jesus.**”

Ask preschoolers to listen carefully as you tell them what the Bible says about Jesus’ family. Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

## THE FAMILY OF JESUS

BASED ON MATTHEW 1:1-25; LUKE 1:26-56; LUKE 3; JOHN 1:1-19

.....

• God planned for Jesus' family long before Jesus was born. (Hand the Abraham marker to a child and ask him to hold up the marker.)

• In the New Testament, Matthew wrote a list of people who were in Jesus' family starting with Abraham.

• (Choose another child to hold up the David marker.) There were fourteen generations of people between Abraham and King David. That means there was a dad, then a grandpa, and then a great grandpa, and then a great-great grandpa and then 10 more greats after that between Abraham and David! (Count those numbers on your fingers with the kids.)

• Remember that God said Jesus would be a part of King David's family in the Old Testament. In fact, there were 28 more generations of dads and granddads when Joseph (Hand the Joseph marker to a child to hold up.) was born as part of the family line of King David! Joseph was the man God had planned to be Jesus' father on earth to teach and take care of Him.

Read Matthew 1:18.

• The book of Matthew tells us that when everything was ready and the time had come for God to send His Son as He promised, God sent an angel to Joseph. The angel told Joseph that he would take Mary as his wife and that they would have a son. The angel also told Joseph to name the baby Jesus.

Choose another child to open to the Mary marker at Luke 1:26 in your Bible.

• In the Bible book of Luke, we can read that God also sent the angel to a young girl named Mary. Mary was the woman God planned to be Jesus' mother. The angel told Mary that God was very pleased with her, that she would have a baby, and to name Him Jesus. The angel also said that Jesus would be the Son of God and that God would give Him the throne of King David. God promised that Jesus would be the true King and that His kingdom would never end. All of these things, though, were written hundreds of years before Jesus was born!

• Mary was not sure how all that the angel told her would happen, but she trusted God and believed that God would do as He said. The angel even told Mary that her cousin, Elizabeth, was to have a baby. (Ask a child to hold up the Elizabeth marker.)

• Elizabeth's baby, John, would be Jesus' cousin. When John was born, his parents knew that God's promise to Abraham was coming true—God was sending the one who would rescue God's people.

Ask another child to open the Bible to the John marker at Luke 3.

• We can also read in Luke that when John grew older, he traveled through a place called Jordan. John was ready to do the special job God had planned for him. John told people that the true King, Jesus, was coming. One day John was teaching and baptizing people. (Help preschoolers understand that baptism shows that someone has decided to follow God's plan.) Jesus came to the river and asked John to baptize Him, too. As Jesus was praying, there was a voice from heaven saying, "You are my beloved Son; with You I am well-pleased."

• God promised in the Bible to send His Son, Jesus, and He did. God planned for Mary and Joseph to be Jesus' parents and to care for Jesus. God planned for John to be Jesus' cousin and to tell people about Jesus. God has a plan for you, too.

## GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** “Before Jesus was born, God planned who His family on earth would be. He planned for men
- to write down a list of people who came before Jesus in His family including King David. God kept
- His promise to send Jesus to be the true King.”

Gather the “Family Bible Markers” from the kids. Hold up each one of the markers and have kids say, “**God planned a family for Jesus.**” Then put the marker down and have kids say, “God planned a family for me.”

Encourage preschoolers to name one thing they learned about Jesus’ family and name a friend they can tell.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Remind preschoolers that **God planned a family for Jesus** before Jesus was even born.

Place the “Family Bible Markers” where preschoolers can see them. Tell the children that when you ask a question, they can point to the marker that answers the question. Ask the following review questions:

- Whose family did God say Jesus would be a part of? (King David’s)
- Who did the angel tell Joseph to marry? (Mary)
- What did the angel say to name the baby? (Jesus)
- Who else did God plan to be a part of Jesus’ family? (Elizabeth and John)

*Leader Tip:*  
If you do not have the Activity Books, use the “Family Bible Markers” laid out on a table or the floor. Cut lengths of yarn to connect the markers.

## CONNECT: GENERATION TO GENERATION

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); crayons or markers*

Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 7.

Lead the kids to trace the lines in order of Jesus’ family genealogy.

Discuss the importance of each person and whether he was found in the Old or New Testament as the kids work.

Remind the preschoolers that Jesus is God’s Son and **God planned a family for Jesus** before He was born.

## PRAY

Lead children to pray and thank God for planning just the right family for Jesus and for them. Ask God to bless each child’s family and help them learn more about Jesus every day. Ask if a child would like to lead a prayer.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### FAMILY PORTRAIT

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); crayons or markers*

- Talk about who is in each child’s family. Help kids understand that all families are different. Some children may not know who is in their family. Some may have lived with their families all their lives while others may be new to a family. Remind kids that no matter what type of family they live in, God loves them and has a plan for each child.
- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the Family Portrait activity on page 8 to draw a picture of their families. As time permits, discuss the pictures with each child.

### WHO IS IN MY FAMILY?

*Provide: 12-by-18-inch sheets of black construction paper (1 per child); child scissors (1 pair per child); colored chalk; small cups or bowls of water; hair spray (leader use only). Fold each sheet of paper in half lengthwise.*

- Give each child a sheet of paper and a pair of scissors. Demonstrate how to cut the corners off the folded paper at the fold to form a “roof.”
- Show kids how to dip the tip of the chalk into the water to keep the dust down and make the colors brighter. Direct them to open the folded “houses” and draw pictures of their family members or of Jesus’ family inside the house.
- Spray drawings lightly with hair spray to keep the chalk from smearing.
- Instruct kids to close the paper again. Invite children to draw details on the front of their papers, such as doors, windows, and a roof with the chalk. Spray the drawings again lightly with hair spray when children finish.

**Leader Tip:**  
Cut the papers in advance for younger preschoolers. Print Today’s Point or Key Verse on sticker labels for kids to attach to their papers or for older preschoolers to copy.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: “David Livingstone’s Important Mission Story” (Item 14); “David Livingstone Photo” (Item 15); strands of yarn or ribbon. Consider reviewing the missions video “Missionary Explorer—David Livingstone” from Session 1. Cut yarn into long strands that will reach across the room.*

Show the David Livingstone photo to preschoolers and tell the story of “David Livingstone’s Important Mission” using the script provided.

⋮ **Say:** “David Livingstone believed all people are special and that Jesus loves everyone.”

Distribute a strand of yarn to preschoolers and invite them to make a curvy path on the floor with the yarn. The paths can criss-cross over each other, like a web. Then invite preschoolers to trace one of the paths of yarn with their fingers.

⋮ **Say:** “These pathways are pretty crazy! Sometimes we might think that God is leading us  
⋮ someplace crazy, but it’s always best when we stay on mission with Him!”

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- In this game, preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words to this session's Key Verse or Today's Point. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Key Verse or Today's Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying some Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today's Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### PUZZLE RELAY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 10)

- In this game, children will race to complete a puzzle to reveal today's Key Verse.
- Read the verse together. Say: "The words in the Bible are true and the Bible tells us that Jesus is God's Son. God planned for Jesus to be born and have a family to take care of Him." Lead preschoolers to recall some of the people who were part of Jesus' family.

### FIND THE FAMILY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 11)

- In this game, preschoolers will search for the plastic figures hidden around the room. Once found, preschoolers can use the figures to form family units.
- Lead the preschoolers to discuss what the figures remind them of from today's session. Discuss how the adult figures remind you that God planned for Mary and Joseph to be Jesus' parents or that God planned for Elizabeth and Zechariah to be His relatives. Suggest the baby and children figures could remind you of John and Jesus as they grew.

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

### REVIEW

*Provide: "Family Bible Markers" (Item 13); painter's tape. Tape the markers on the walls around the room.*

Ask review questions from the Bible story (used in Bible study time).

Point to and name each of the markers you have placed around the room and remind the preschoolers that **God planned a family for Jesus**.

Explain to the children that when you call out the name of one of Jesus' family members, they should go stand next to the marker on the wall. Once at the marker, ask the children to tell you one thing they remember about the person from the story.

⋮ **Close by saying:** "Jesus is God's Son and **God planned a family for Jesus** when He was born."

### PRAY

Thank God for picking just the right people to be Jesus' family on earth. Thank God for placing us in our families. Ask God to help us love our families and to care for one another.

### DISMISS

*Provide: "Parent Connection" (Item 10); clean, empty can; strips of paper; family or smiley face stickers; scissors. Copy a "Parent Connection" for each TeamKID. Print the Bible phrase and place a sticker on several strips of paper. Cut several additional blank strips of paper. Mix all the strips of paper and place them inside the can.*

Leader Tip:  
Extend the activity by printing Today's Point on strips of paper to place inside a second can.

Invite preschoolers to sit in a circle. Pass the can around the circle and direct the preschoolers to pull a strip of paper from the can when it is passed to them.

⋮ **Say:** "If your strip of paper has a sticker on it, we will read the words on the paper. If there is nothing written on your paper, we will clap our hands five times."

Continue passing the can around the circle until all the strips of paper have been pulled out. Read the Bible phrase and remind the kids that Jesus is God's Son and that God kept His promise to send His Son to rescue people from sin.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 3

# THE ARRIVAL

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS WAS BORN JUST LIKE GOD SAID.

### BIBLE STORY

The Birth and Boyhood of Jesus (Luke 2)

### KEY VERSE

Thank You, God, for Jesus. Luke 2:38

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 10).

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- Index cards
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### NUMBER THE STORY

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons
- "Story Pictures" (Item 16)

#### MEASURING UP

- Rulers
- Tape measures
- Yarn
- Craft paper
- Construction paper
- Markers
- Scissors

### MISSIONS

- Parachute or bedsheet
- Inflatable ball or small stuffed animal
- Cue the "Gospel Party" video.

### GAMES

#### GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)

- Cardstock in various colors
- Markers
- Parachute or large sheet

#### SEARCH AND SORT (P 12)

- Nativity scene items
- 3–4 baskets

#### WHEN I WAS A BABY... NOW I CAN (P 13)

- Large sheet of paper
- Marker
- Tape

### CLOSING

- "Story Pictures" (Item 16)
- Painter's tape
- Upbeat music and music player
- "Parent Connection" (Item 10)

## LEADER DEVOTION

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### OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 2:15-20 (the shepherd's response to the good news) from your Bible or Bible app. Note how the shepherds responded to the angel's message.

### STUDY

It resonates with me that Luke's account of Jesus' birth highlights the point of view of two largely marginalized groups of people in his time—women and shepherds. This underscores God's message that Jesus came for all people of all classes and backgrounds. Jesus was born just as God had said. He was born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), a small town with no major significance. Jesus would be worshiped by shepherds (Psalm 72:9-19). Even Jesus' name was foretold by the angel to Mary before Jesus was born (Luke 2:21).

This narrative also describes the everyday ordinary things that would make Jesus' birth and childhood seem no different than anyone else of His day. His earthly father was a carpenter; His mother took care of the home and children. They carried out their duties as parents in the same fashion as all the other parents—they took their child to the temple to be dedicated and to offer sacrifices following the law of Moses; they went to the Passover Festival every year; and they searched for Jesus when He was lost. Nothing out of the ordinary, yet as you read this chapter carefully, you begin to see the extraordinary responses to those who met Jesus in His early years.

### CONSIDER

- Consider Mary's response to the things she was told about her Son in Luke 2:19,33, and 51.
  
- Ponder on how you can store up and treasure the things you are learning about Jesus in your heart.

### PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Pray glorifying and thanking God for all things you have seen and heard which were just as they had been told. (Luke 2:20)
- Ask God to help you increase in wisdom and favor with God and His people.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Invite the preschoolers to sit in a circle with you.

Ask preschoolers to think about the things they could do when they were babies, things they can do now, and things they will be able to do when they get older.

Explain that you will all play a game where the kids will fill in the blanks as you say: “When I was a baby I ... . Now I can ... . When I get older I will ... .”

Play several rounds being sure that every child has a chance to fill in the blanks.

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: THE BIRTH AND BOYHOOD OF JESUS (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); index cards; markers. Print the following names on individual cards “Matthew-1”; “Mark-2”; “Luke-3”; and “John-4.” (Include the numbers or another method such as dots to help pre-readers.)*

Leader Tip:  
Mark your Bible at  
Luke 2:1; Luke 2:8;  
Luke 2:22; and  
Luke 2:39.

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Share the following:

☛ **Say:** There are two main parts of the Bible—the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Ask preschoolers to hold up two fingers and repeat the words Old Testament and New Testament.

☛ **Say:** The first four books of the New Testament are called the Gospels. The names of these books are: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

As you say the names of the Gospel books, lay down the index cards in correct order. Ask preschoolers to hold up four fingers. Repeat the book names. Then direct kids to repeat the names with you as you count on your fingers.

☛ **Say:** Explain that the word gospel means good news and these books are where we can learn about the good news of Jesus. They tell us about when Jesus was born and about His life as a child and then as an adult.

Pick up the index cards and mix them up. Lay the cards on the floor again and ask children to help you put the book names back in order. Assist kids as needed.

Introduce the story.

☛ **Say:** In the Old Testament, God told men called prophets to write about His promise for Jesus to be born many, many years before it happened. And at just the right time, **Jesus was born just like God said.** God planned a family for Jesus before He was even born. We can read about Jesus’ birth and boyhood in the book of Luke. Today we will learn that **Jesus was born just like God said** and about Jesus’ life as a child. (Ask preschoolers to hold up three fingers to remind them Luke is the third book in the New Testament.)

Hold your Bible on your lap as you tell the Bible story in your own words.

## THE BIRTH AND BOYHOOD OF JESUS BASED ON LUKE 2

.....

Ask a child to pull the marker from Luke 2:1.

- Just before the time came for Jesus to be born, Caesar Augustus made a decree
- or law that everyone had to go back to his hometown to be counted. So Jesus’
- parents, Joseph and Mary, had to travel back to Joseph’s hometown of Bethlehem.
- While Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, it came time for Jesus to be born, but
- they could not find a room anywhere to stay. Finally, Mary and Joseph found a
- place in a stable where they could stay. Mary had her baby there. After Jesus was
- born, Mary wrapped Him in cloth to keep Him warm and laid Jesus in a manger.
- (Explain that a manger was like a feeding box for cattle.)

Lead another child to pull the marker from Luke 2:8.

- That same night, a group of shepherds were nearby keeping watch over their
- sheep. Suddenly, an angel appeared before them and told them not to be afraid
- because, on this night, the Savior God had promised to send was born. The angel
- told the shepherds where Jesus was born and even what they would find Him
- wearing!

- **Ask:** “Do you think you would be afraid if you saw an angel?” (Allow for answers)

- More angels joined the first angel and they all sang praises to God for sending
- Jesus to be born that day. And as suddenly as they appeared, the angels returned
- to heaven. The shepherds went to see this baby that was born and worship Him.
- The shepherds praised God because everything about Jesus’ birth happened just
- the way the angel had told them.

Turn to Luke 2:22.

- After some time had passed, Jesus’ parents took Him to the temple (church).
- There was a man named Simeon at the temple the day that Jesus’ parents brought
- Him. Simeon loved God and followed God’s commands. God had promised Simeon
- that he would not die before seeing God’s promised Son, Jesus. Simeon recognized
- who Jesus was. Simeon took Baby Jesus in his arms and thanked God for keeping
- His promise. A woman named Anna was also in the temple that day. She also knew
- that Jesus was the one God had promised to send. Anna thanked God.

Invite a child to pull the marker from Luke 2:39.

- After Joseph and Mary had done everything they were to do in the temple, they
- took Jesus back home where He grew strong and wise. Joseph and Mary took
- Jesus back to the temple every year to celebrate a festival called Passover. (Explain
- that the people celebrated the Passover Festival as a reminder of how God had rescued the Israelite
- people from slavery in Egypt.)
- During one visit when Jesus was 12, He went to the temple to listen to the teachers
- and ask questions. Jesus’ parents did not know that He was still in the temple
- when they began the journey home. When they realized Jesus was not with them,
- they went back and looked for Him. They found Jesus in the temple and everyone
- was amazed at all that Jesus knew.

### GOING DEEPER

Lead preschoolers to repeat Today's Point—**Jesus was born just like God said.**

Point out that Jesus was born, and He grew just like you and me. Jesus' parents took Him to the temple (church), just like you come to church to learn about the Bible and the things God tells us.

Ask preschoolers to share one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can share with a family member or friend. Guide preschoolers to hold up four fingers (like the number of Gospel books) if they want to share when it is their turn.

### QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Remind preschoolers that **Jesus was born just like God said**, and when we read one of the Gospel books, we can learn about His birth, childhood, and life.

Invite the kids to listen to statements from the story. If they are "true" (really happened), lead them to show a "thumbs up." If they are "false" (did not happen), lead them to hold up a "thumbs down."

Read the following statements:

- Luke is the third Gospel book in the New Testament. (*true*)
- God did not tell men to write about Jesus' birth in the Old Testament. (*false*)
- Mary and Joseph went to Mary's hometown right before Jesus was born. (*false*)
- Angels appeared to shepherds and told them about Jesus' birth. (*true*)
- Jesus' parents took Him to the temple for the first time when He was a year old. (*false*)
- When Jesus grew older, He went to the temple to listen to the teachers and ask questions. (*true*)

### CONNECT: LEARNING ABOUT JESUS

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 10. Read each statement and direct kids to fill in the blanks on the page by using the pictures.

- Going to \_\_\_\_ (church)
- Reading the \_\_\_\_ (Bible)
- Listening to my \_\_\_\_ (teacher)

Remind kids that we can learn about Jesus many ways.

- Ask: "What are some other ways you can learn about Jesus?" Discuss answers as time allows.

### PRAY

Lead children to praise God for fulfilling His promise to send Jesus to be born as a baby in Bethlehem. Ask God to help the children listen and ask questions about Jesus so they may know more about Him.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### NUMBER THE STORY

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); “Story Pictures” (Item 16); copy paper; markers or crayons. Copy and place pictures in easy to see places around the room.*

- Explain that you will describe a picture that you see around the room. The first child to raise her hand when she sees the picture will go and bring the picture back to you.
- Begin describing each of the “Story Pictures” one at a time. For example, you might say, “I see a picture with a man holding a baby in a temple.”
- Once all pictures have been described and located, guide the kids to work together to put the pictures in order of the story.
- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 9 and number the pictures in order using the “Story Pictures” as a guide.

### MEASURING UP

*Provide: Rulers; tape measures; yarn; craft paper (at least 4 feet long); construction paper; markers; scissors. Tape the craft paper vertically on a wall.*

- Invite each child to come and stand next to the craft paper. Make a mark on the paper to indicate his height. Write his name next to the mark.
- Show the children how to use the rulers to measure their feet and mark the measurement on a sheet of construction paper.
- Lead the kids to use the tape measures to measure the length of their arms, legs, width of their palms, around their wrists, and so forth.
- Help children measure around their heads with the yarn. Cut the yarn for them to compare with friends.
- Encourage the kids to show their measurements to their friends. Discuss how they are growing physically just as Jesus grew.
- Remind preschoolers that as we grow in size and age, God also wants us to grow in wisdom and knowledge about Him.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: Parachute or bedsheet; inflatable ball or small stuffed animal. Cue the missions video “Gospel Party.”*

- **Say:** “Let’s meet the Worthys. They are a missionary family who use special events like camps and parties to introduce people to Jesus.”

Show the video.

- **Say:** “During camp events and parties, the Worthys play games, like parachute games, and introduce stories from the Bible. Let’s practice telling what we’ve learned about Jesus as we play. Learning to tell other people what we learn from the Bible is one way we can be on mission.”

Invite preschoolers to sit around the sheet or parachute. Put the ball or stuffed animal in the middle and invite preschoolers to gently shake the parachute. When the ball falls out of the sheet, say together, “**Jesus was born just like God said.**”

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- In this game, preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words to this session’s Key Verse or Today’s Point. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Key Verse or Today’s Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying some Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today’s Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### SEARCH AND SORT (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 12)

- Preschoolers will search for hidden nativity scene items and place them in a basket. Once the items are found, preschoolers will sort them into different categories.
- Remind preschoolers that Jesus was born just like God had told the prophets to write in the Old Testament.
- Say: “When we read one of the Gospel books, we can learn about Jesus’ birth, childhood, and life. We can thank God for Jesus and that He kept His promise to send Jesus.”

### WHEN I WAS A BABY... NOW I CAN... (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 13)

- In this game, preschoolers will mimic some of the actions and activities they did when they were a baby as well as some of the actions and activities they can do now that they are older.
- Remind kids that today’s story was not just about Jesus as a baby, but we also heard about Jesus as a young boy. The Bible tells us that Jesus was born and that He grew in size and in wisdom.
- Say: “As we grow in size and age, God also wants us to grow in wisdom and knowledge about Him, just as Jesus did.”

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: “Story Pictures” (Item 16); painter’s tape. Attach the pictures to the wall in order.*

Ask review questions from the Bible story (used in Bible study time).

Point to the first “Story Picture” and remind the preschoolers that **Jesus was born just as God said**.

Point to the second and third “Story Pictures” and read the Bible paraphrase—“Thank You, God, for Jesus.” Call attention to the fact that the shepherds and Simeon thanked God for Jesus.

Call attention to the last picture. Remind kids that Jesus continued to grow physically, and He continued to learn and grow in wisdom, too.

Close by reminding kids that, as they grow, God wants them not only to grow to be healthy and strong, but He also wants them to grow in what they know about Jesus and the Bible.

### PRAY

Ask preschoolers if anyone would like to pray.

After kids pray, close with your own prayer. Thank God for Jesus. Thank God for giving us the Bible to learn about Jesus’ birth and boyhood. Ask God to help the preschoolers grow strong and healthy and to learn more about Jesus.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Parent Connection” (Item 10); “Story Pictures” (Item 16); upbeat music; music player. Print out a “Parent Connection” for each TeamKID.*

Direct kids to sit in a circle. Give four preschoolers one of the “Story Pictures” to hold.

Explain that, when the music starts, they will pass the pictures around the circle. When the music stops, the children holding the pictures will name something fun they did at TeamKID or say one thing they remember from the Bible story.

Start the music and stop at different intervals. Play as time allows.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 4

# THE MESSENGER

TODAY'S POINT: JOHN TOLD PEOPLE ABOUT JESUS.

### BIBLE STORY

John the Baptist (John 1:19-28;  
Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 1:1-8; Luke 3:1-20)

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 10).

### KEY VERSE

John told people about Jesus. *Luke 3:18*

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

Bibles (1 per preschooler)

Activity Books (1 per child)

Markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### SEARCH FOR THE GOSPEL BOOKS

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons
- Plastic cups in 5 sizes that can nest together
- Permanent marker

### MESSAGE KEEPERS

- File folders
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Yarn
- Masking tape
- Stickers or other decorations
- Glue sticks
- "Message Keeper" (Item 17)

### MISSIONS

- "Worthy Family Photos with Captions" (Item 18)
- Toy cooking items (pots, pans, spoons)

### GAMES

#### GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)

- Cardstock in various colors
- Markers
- Parachute or large sheet

#### FOUR GOSPELS (P 15)

- Copy or construction paper in 4 different colors
- Tape

#### HOW MANY SHOULD I TELL (PG 15)

- Large sheets of white paper
- Washable markers
- Tape
- Trumpet sound
- Timer

### CLOSING

Colored strips of paper (5 different colors)

Marker

"Parent Connection" (Item 10)

4

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 3:15-18 (John's response to the people who questioned if he was the Messiah) from your Bible or Bible app. Note how John pointed others to Jesus and away from himself.

## STUDY

Have you ever heard the expression, "Don't shoot the messenger?" It's usually said when someone is delivering unpleasant news. In today's story, preschoolers are hearing about the forebearer of Jesus. He was a man given the mission of delivering what to some was not pleasant news. In fact some of the people who heard John's message very much wanted to "shoot the messenger" or, in Herod's case, throw him in prison (Luke 3:20).

John came proclaiming the coming of the Messiah; he came preaching repentance and the forgiveness of sin. John explained what would happen to those who do not repent—"he will burn with fire that never goes out." (Matthew 3:12) Certainly not pleasant news for those who were unrepentant. But that was not the extent of John's message. For those who heard his words and repented, John proclaimed the good news of Jesus Christ.

John knew his purpose and what he was sent to do. He did not allow those around him to distract him by trying to claim him as the Messiah. John was the messenger, the one who was sent to tell people about the arrival of the true Messiah. John knew baptizing by water was only symbolic of the true saving grace of Jesus by baptism through the Holy Spirit. John shared the good news with the people he encountered, and God wants us to do the same today!

## CONSIDER

- Consider John's message of repentance and what things you may need to repent of.

- Ponder how you can share the good news with others.

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Pray thanking God for the saving grace offered through His Son, Jesus.
- Ask God to help you share the good news with those you encounter. Ask that He will open their ears and soften their hearts to His message.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY: PASS THE MESSAGE (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: No supplies needed*

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Invite the preschoolers to sit in a circle with you.

Whisper something that is true about Jesus in one child's ear. Consider using Bible Points learned in the previous sessions. The child will then whisper the statement into the next child's ear.

Continue around the circle until the statement reaches the last child. Ask the child to say the statement aloud. If the resulting statement is different, share what you said to the first child.

Help kids understand the importance of making sure we listen closely when someone tells us something. Explain that we need to be sure that we are hearing correctly and that the person is telling the truth. Stress that everything the Bible tells us is true and that the Bible has words that God wants us to know.

Play several rounds starting at different points in the circle.

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

**Leader Tip:**  
Mark your Bible at Mark 1; Luke 3; and John 1:19.

### BIBLE STUDY: JOHN THE BAPTIST (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); 3 envelopes; marker; 3 pieces of paper or index cards; 3 strips of construction paper. Number the construction paper strips and envelopes 1–3. Print the following Scripture passages on individual pages or cards and place each in a separate envelope in order of their use in the story: Mark 1; Luke 3; and John 1. Place each corresponding numbered strip in your Bible at its Scripture location.*

Distribute the numbered envelopes to three preschoolers. Ask them not to look inside until you call on them during the story.

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Ask if preschoolers can remember how many Gospel books are in the Bible. (four)

- **Say:** Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are the four Gospels. (As you say the names of the Gospel books, count to four using fingers.) They tell us about the life of Jesus.

Ask preschoolers to recall in which part of the Bible we can find the Gospels. (New Testament)

- **Say:** In every Gospel, God told men to write about a man named John and how **John told people about Jesus**. Today our story comes from three of those Gospels: Mark, Luke, and John.

Explain that the man named John in our Scriptures today is different from the man who wrote the Gospel book of John. Help them understand that just as they could have two friends with the same name, these two men had the same names as well.

Hold your Bible on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

## JOHN THE BAPTIST

### BASED ON JOHN 1:19-28; MATTHEW 3:1-12; MARK 1:1-8; LUKE 3:1-20

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- We played a game called “Pass the Message” earlier. Each one of you got to be the messenger in our game. I’ve now asked three of our friends to be our messengers during our Bible story time. As I call on them, each one will share a message to help us know where we should read in our Bible today.

Ask the child with envelope number one (1) to open it. Invite the child to read what the message from the envelope says. (If the child is a pre-reader, whisper the message from the card in his ear and ask him to share it with the group.)

Open your Bible to Mark 1.

- Our Bible story comes from the New Testament. In the book of Mark, though, we read that it really started in the Old Testament, in the book of Isaiah. Here, God told a man named Isaiah to write that a time would come when God would send a man to be His messenger to help people get ready for Jesus.
- Isaiah also told the people that this man would baptize people. (Describe baptism and help preschoolers understand that baptism is a way people tell others that they follow God’s plan.)
- John told the people that he was the man Isaiah wrote about.

Ask the child with envelope number two (2) to open it. Invite the child to read what the message from the envelope says. (If the child is a pre-reader, whisper the message from the card in his ear and ask him to share it with the group.)

Open your Bible to Luke 3.

- In Luke, we read that hundreds of years later, God kept His promise and sent John to tell the people of Jerusalem about Jesus’ coming. John told the people that someone greater than he was coming. John told the people they needed to stop doing the things that did not please God. He told them they would need to be baptized to show they wanted to follow God’s plan.

Ask the child with envelope number three (3) to open it. Invite the child to read what the message from the envelope says. (If the child is a pre-reader, whisper the message from the card in his ear and ask him to share it with the group.)

Turn to John 1:19.

- This book tells us that many people were confused and thought that maybe John was the One God had promised to send to save them. John told the people he was not. When the people asked who he was then, John responded by explaining that he was a messenger, sent just like the prophet Isaiah said to tell people about Jesus.

## GOING DEEPER

Remind preschoolers that **John told people about Jesus**.

Tell preschoolers that God wants us to tell people about Jesus, too.

Lead preschoolers to discuss things that they know about Jesus that they can tell others. Guide preschoolers to stand up if they want to share their answers.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Explain that kids will review today's Bible story by playing a game of "Go and Tell."

Tell the children to scatter around the room. When you call out a question they will take three steps in any direction. Then they will stop and tell a friend standing close to them the answer.

Call out the following questions:

- Who did Isaiah say God would send? (A messenger)
- Who was the messenger God sent? (John)
- What did John tell the people? (They needed to be ready for Jesus to come; they needed to stop doing things that didn't please God.)
- Who did people think John was? (The One God promised to send to save them)

## CONNECT: I CAN TELL PEOPLE ABOUT JESUS

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

- **Say:** "God used people like John and Isaiah to tell people about Jesus. God wants us to tell people about Jesus, too."

Invite kids to open their TeamKID Activity Book to page 12.

Direct children to trace one of their hands in the space on the page. Help kids think of people they can tell the good news about Jesus. Assist each child as needed to print the names of people he can tell about Jesus on the fingers of his handprint. (You may also choose to print some of the names such as Mom, Dad, Sister, Brother, and the like on a sheet of paper so that kids can copy the words.)

As space on the page allows, kids may also choose to draw pictures of the people they want to tell about Jesus.

## PRAY

Lead children to pray and thank God for sending John to tell people about Jesus. Ask God to help them tell others about Jesus.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### SEARCH FOR THE GOSPEL BOOKS

*Provide: Activity Book (1 per child); 5 plastic cups; permanent marker. Print: “The Gospels”; “Matthew”; “Mark”; “Luke”; and “John” on separate cups. Draw a different shape on each cup to help pre-readers. Hide the cups around the room.*

- Instruct the kids to walk around the room and find the cup that has the word or shape on it that you call out. Tell them not to pick the cup up or tell others where it is. Once they spot it, they will come back to the circle.
- Continue calling out the words printed on the cups in random order.
- Call on different preschoolers to pick up the cups and bring them back to the circle.
- Remind kids that the first four books in the New Testament are called the Gospels and the story they heard about John can be found in each of the four Gospels.
- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 11 and lead the kids to complete the activity.

If time permits and you have enough supplies, consider making a nesting set of cups for each child to take home.

### MESSAGE KEEPERS

*Provide: “Message Keeper” (Item 17); file folders; scissors; hole punch; yarn; masking tape, stickers, or other decorations, glue sticks. Print and cut out the “Message Keeper” (include the title and message strips) for each child. Cut the yarn into two 15-inch pieces per child. Tie a knot on one end and wrap the masking tape on the other end of each piece. Punch a few holes down both sides of the file folders.*

- Give each child a file folder and two pieces of yarn. Guide her to lace each side of the folder together with a strand of yarn. Help cut off the excess yarn and tie knots at the end of each piece.
- Lead the kids to glue the paper that says, “My Message Keeper,” to the front of their folders. Kids can color the labels and decorate.
- Read each of the “message strips.” (Found on “Message Keeper” [Item 17].) Remind preschoolers that these are some of the truths they have been learning about God, Jesus, and the Bible during TeamKID. Give each child a set of messages to keep in her folder.
- Remind the kids that **John told people about Jesus**. Tell kids they can use the messages in their folders to help them tell people about Jesus.

**Leader Tip:**  
Consider keeping the folders and adding the Points to each of the following sessions of TeamKID. You may need to start the lacing for younger preschoolers.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Worthy Family Photos with Captions” (Item 18); toy cooking items (pots, pans, spoons).*

Display the photos and read the captions under the photos that tell more about the life and ministry of the Worthy family in Italy.

- **Say:** “The Worthys have chosen to live in the country of Italy so they can get to know people who need Jesus. They are bringing good news!”

Explain that many great recipes come from Italy. Remind preschoolers of some Italian food they may have eaten: pizza, spaghetti, lasagna. Invite preschoolers to pretend to make an Italian meal together. As they cook, remind them about some of the things they have heard about the Worthys. Pray, thanking God for the Worthy family in Italy.

## GAMES (15-20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- In this game, preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words to this session's Key Verse or Today's Point. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Key Verse or Today's Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying some Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today's Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### FOUR GOSPELS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 14)

- Preschoolers will review the names of the Gospel books found in the New Testament. The game is a "Four Corners" variation.
- Ask kids to recite the Gospels in order. Remind them that today they heard about John the Baptist, and John appears in all four Gospels. Lead the kids to recall what John did in the story.
- Say: "John told people about Jesus and we can, too."

### HOW MANY SHOULD I TELL (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 15)

- In this game, preschoolers will work in teams to draw as many stick figure people as they can on a sheet of paper in three to five minutes.
- Explain that you used a trumpet sound to start and stop the activity because in the past, people used trumpets to announce the arrival of important people such as a king or queen. In today's story, John the Baptist told people about Jesus' arrival and that they needed to be ready. Call attention to the numbers on each team's sheet. Use the numbers on the papers to fill in the blanks when you ask: "Do you think God only wants us to tell \_\_\_ people about Jesus? Or only \_\_\_ people?" Tell kids God wants us to tell as many people as we can about Jesus. He wants all people to hear the good news.

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: No supplies needed*

Ask review questions from the Bible story (used in Bible Story time).

Share that God sent John to tell people about Jesus.

⋮ **Say:** “Today, Jesus wants people to tell others about Him, too.”

Invite preschoolers to say the Key Verse together—**John told people about Jesus.**

Lead preschoolers to repeat the verse together but to substitute their own names for John’s in the statement.

### PRAY

Lead children to pray and ask God to help them tell others about Jesus.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Parent Connection” (Item 10); 5 different-colored strips of paper; marker. Print out a Parent Connection for each TeamKID. Print one word of the Key Verse—“John told people about Jesus” on each strip of paper. Place the strips on a table.*

Direct preschoolers to close their eyes or cover them with their hands. Remove one strip of paper.

Ask preschoolers to open their eyes and guess which color is missing. The first to guess will tell one thing he remembers about John the Baptist.

Continue play removing strips one at a time.

Place all the strips back on the table and read the verse. Play again and challenge kids to identify which color and word is missing.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 5

# THE SON

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS IS GOD'S SON.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Was Baptized (Matthew 3:3-17;  
Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:29-35)

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 10).

### KEY VERSE

God said, "This is my Son; listen to Him."  
Mark 9:7

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- 4 blank index cards
- Marker
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Washable markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### WATER COLOR PICTURES

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Watercolor paper
- Watercolor paints
- Paintbrushes
- Cups of water
- Paper towels

#### BIBLE STORY TEXTURES

- Music source
- White paper
- Crayons
- Sandpaper
- Corrugated paper
- Hot glue
- Cardboard
- Chenille stems
- Tape

#### MISSIONS

- Microphone (real or pretend)
- Cue the "Gospel Fills the Airwaves" video.

### GAMES

#### GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)

- Cardstock in various colors
- Markers
- Parachute or large sheet

#### LID TOSS (P 16)

- Plastic jar lids
- Permanent marker
- Buckets of water
- Tape
- Plastic tarp

#### JUMP THE RIVER (P 17)

- 2 ropes
- Upbeat music

### CLOSING

- Bible
- Index cards from Bible study
- Markers
- Music and music player
- Basket
- "Parent Connection" (Item 10)
- Soft playground ball

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# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read John 1:29-35 (John testifies to what he had seen and heard) from your Bible or Bible app. Note how John describes Jesus and his encounter with Him.

## STUDY

My father went to be with the Lord a few years ago, but even so I can still distinctly hear his voice in my mind. I remember how when he called and I said, "Hello," he would say, "This is your father speaking." I am not sure why he always felt the need to tell me it was him, I would recognize his voice anywhere. I knew by his tone whether he was happy or sad. I knew when he was pleased with me without his having to say the words. But when he did tell me I had done a good job or he was pleased with me, how it made my heart soar.

I can only imagine how Jesus must have felt hearing His Father confirm to all those who witnessed His baptism, "This is my Son in whom I am well-pleased." (See Matt. 3:17; Mark 1:11; Luke 3:22) Jesus knows His Father's voice. He knows if God is pleased or not without God having to audibly say a word, but God spoke so that those around would know without a doubt that Jesus is God's Son. Jesus listened to and obeyed what God told Him to do. Jesus did not have to be baptized in order to repent because He never sinned (2 Cor. 5:21). Jesus was baptized to fulfill God's command and to set an example for His followers (Matt. 3:15).

As followers of Jesus, we should also make it our goal to listen to and obey God. As John pointed out to all who would listen, the time has come to repent and hear the good news!

## CONSIDER

- Consider what you have seen and heard about Jesus.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Ponder over how you testify to others and share the good news about Jesus.

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Pray and thank God for all you have seen and heard about Jesus.
- Ask God to help you testify and share the good news with those around you.



## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY: FIND THE COLORS (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: No supplies needed*

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Invite the preschoolers to sit in a circle with you.

Tell the kids you will call out a number and a color. When you give the instruction, kids will go and touch the number of items in the room that are the color you called out and then come back to the circle.

Call out instructions in this order:

- Touch four things that are green.
- Touch three things that are yellow.
- Touch two things that are red.
- Touch one thing that is blue.

Point out that the last instruction was to touch one thing that was blue.

- **Say:** “Our Bible story today is found in all four of the Gospels, but we will start with the Gospel of Matthew, the first book in the New Testament. Listen to see if you can discover why we touched the color blue last.”

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: JESUS WAS BAPTIZED (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); 4 blank index cards; marker. Print one of the Gospel books on each index card. Place the card labeled Matthew at Matthew 3 in your Bible. Place the card labeled Mark at Mark 1 in your Bible. Place the card labeled Luke at Luke 3 in your Bible. Place the card with John at John 1 in your Bible.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see.

Lead preschoolers to hold up the number of fingers that represent the number of books called the Gospels. (four)

Lead preschoolers to recite the four Gospels and count on their fingers as they say each one. (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)

Remind preschoolers that the New Testament, and especially the Gospels, tells us about Jesus and His life.

- **Say:** “Today we will learn about Jesus being baptized and that **Jesus is God’s Son.**”

Ask adult leaders to help preschoolers find Matthew in their Bibles. Hold your Bible on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

## JESUS WAS BAPTIZED

**BASED ON MATTHEW 3:13-17; MARK 1:9-11; LUKE 3:21-22; JOHN 1:29-35**

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Open your Bible to Matthew 3 and hold up the card with Matthew on it. Lead the kids to say the word with you. Hold up one finger and tell kids Matthew is the first book in the New Testament.

• In the book of Matthew we can read about the time when Jesus was baptized.

(Describe baptism and help preschoolers understand that baptism is a way people tell others that they follow Jesus.)

• Jesus' cousin, John, was at the Jordan River baptizing people. Jesus came to the river and asked John to baptize Him. John was confused; he thought Jesus should baptize him. Jesus told John to allow Him to be baptized because it was the way God wanted it to be.

(Choose a child to open to the next marker. Ask her to hold up the card. Lead the kids to say the word Mark with you. Hold up two fingers and tell kids Mark is the second book in the New Testament.)

• John agreed and baptized Jesus. As soon as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit came down on Jesus like a dove.

Explain to kids that the Holy Spirit is God's promised Helper who helps us follow God's plan. Invite another child to turn to the card marking Luke. Ask him to hold up the card. Lead the kids to say the word with you. Hold up three fingers and tell kids Luke is the third book in the New Testament.

• God's voice came from heaven saying, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well-pleased." Everyone there who heard the voice knew that Jesus was God's Son, the one God had promised to send many years before.

Call on another child to turn to the card marking John. Ask her to hold up the card. Lead the kids to say the word with you. Hold up four fingers and tell kids John is the fourth book in the New Testament.

• The next day after John baptized Jesus, he saw Jesus walking toward him. John told the people that Jesus is the One he had told them about and about how the Spirit had come down on Jesus like a dove. John told people, "This is the Son of God."

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## GOING DEEPER

Ask the children to share what they heard that might make them think about the color blue as they listened to the story. (Blue represented the water Jesus was baptized in.)

Lead preschoolers to say Today's Point with you—**Jesus is God's Son**. Recall how they learned this from the story.

Read the Key Verse to the preschoolers—"God said, 'This is my Son; listen to Him.'" Point out that God does not only want us to know Jesus is His Son, but He also wants us to listen to what Jesus tells us.

Discuss with preschoolers some things Jesus tells us to do. (Be kind to others; share what we have; follow God's rules, etc.)

Encourage preschoolers to share one thing they learned about Jesus and name a friend they can tell. Guide preschoolers to hold up four fingers if they want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ask the following review questions:

- Who baptized Jesus? (His cousin, John)
- What happened when Jesus came up out of the water? (The heavens opened and the Holy Spirit came down on Jesus like a dove.)
- How do we know Jesus is God's Son? (God's voice came from heaven and said Jesus is His Son.)
- What does God want us to do? (listen to Jesus)

## CONNECT: FIND THE VERSE

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); washable markers or crayons*

Invite kids to open their TeamKID Activity Books to page 14. Talk about the picture on the page. Point out that words can be seen in the picture.

Lead them to find and circle the words from today's Key Verse that they see in the picture.

After a child has found all the words, direct her to copy the words of the verse below the picture.

When all kids have finished the activity, say the verse together as a group.

## PRAY

Lead children to pray and thank God for telling us about His Son, Jesus. Ask God to help us listen to Jesus and do the things He tells us to do. Ask if any child would like to lead a prayer.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### WATERCOLOR PICTURES

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); watercolor paper; watercolor paints; paintbrushes; cups of water; paper towels*

- Give each child a piece of watercolor paper and a paintbrush. Demonstrate how to lightly dip the brush into the water and then into the watercolor paint.
- Encourage preschoolers to use the blues and green colors to paint a picture of the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized.
- Suggest that they use the brown and yellow to paint the shore line. Remind the kids to wipe off their paintbrushes on the paper towels when changing colors.
- Remind preschoolers that Jesus was baptized and some of the people there heard God say that Jesus is His Son.
- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 13 and lead the kids to complete the activity.

**Leader Tip:**  
Place the paper towels into trays and lightly pour water on them. Kids can dip their brushes on to the paper towel to wet them and control the amount of water they use.

### BIBLE STORY TEXTURES

*Provide: Music source; white paper; crayons; sandpaper; corrugated paper; hot glue; cardboard; chenille stems; tape. Peel the paper from the crayons. Cut pieces of corrugated paper into the shape of waves and tape them to a table. Tape squares of sandpaper to the table. Use the hot glue to make the outline of an ear on several pieces of cardboard. Tape them to the table once the glue has dried. Bend the chenille stems into lip shapes and tape them to the table.*

- Give each child a sheet of paper and a crayon. Direct her to go to one of the items taped to the table.
- Instruct the children to place their papers on top of the texture. Explain that you will play music as the kids use the crayon to rub over the texture to reveal a design on their papers.
- Pause the music periodically and ask the children to move to another texture on the table. Play until the kids have had a chance to experience all the textures.
- Discuss how each texture relates to the Bible story. (Sandpaper—the shore line; Waves—the water; Lips—God said that Jesus is His Son; Ear—God wants us to listen to Jesus)

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: Microphone (real or pretend). Cue the missions video, “Gospel Fills the Airwaves.”*

- **Say:** “Missionaries around the world are obeying what the Bible says and teaching people that Jesus is God’s Son. Some missionaries are using the radio. Let’s find out how missionary Eric Maroney is using a radio show to spread the news of Jesus.”

Play the missions video.

Say that you will pretend to have a radio show. One at a time invite preschoolers to come to the microphone to say one thing they know about Jesus or simply say, “Jesus loves you.” Thank preschoolers for learning about missions and how God might use them one day.

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- In this game, preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words to this session's Key Verse or Today's Point. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Key Verse or Today's Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying some Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today's Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### LID TOSS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 16)

- Today preschoolers will toss lids with the Key Verse written on them into a bucket of water. If a lid lands in the water, the child will tell something he remembers about today's Bible story.
- Lead kids to recall what water had to do with today's Bible story. (Jesus was baptized in the water.) Repeat the Key Verse and remind kids that when Jesus came up out of the water, God said these words. God wanted everyone there to know that Jesus is His Son and that they should listen to what Jesus told them.

### JUMP THE RIVER (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 17)

- In this game preschoolers will jump over two ropes that represent a river. In each round the ropes will be moved further apart to represent the river getting wider and wider.
- Ask the children to recall what a river had to do with today's story. (John was baptizing people in the Jordan River. Jesus came to be baptized in the river, too.) Remind the preschoolers that Jesus allowed John to baptize Him because they were obeying God. When people are baptized today, they are showing that they have decided to turn away from doing things that displease God and want to follow Jesus.

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: Index cards from Bible study; markers; music and music player. Draw a river on the back of the “Matthew” card. Draw a dove on the back of the “Mark” card. Draw an ear on the back of the “Luke” card. Draw a mouth on the back of the “John” card. Place the cards in a basket.*

Review the Bible story by asking review questions from the story (used during Bible Story time).

Direct the children to sit in a line next to each other. Explain that while the music plays, kids will pass the basket from one to another up and down the line. When the music stops, the child holding the basket will pull out a card and tell how the picture reminds her of something from the Bible story.

Give the first child in line the basket. Start the music and instruct the child to pass the basket to his neighbor.

Stop the music periodically for kids to pull a card from the basket and talk about the picture. Play until all the cards have been removed. (Or, ask the child to return the card to the basket and continue playing as time allows.)

Conclude by reminding preschoolers that **Jesus is God’s Son** and was baptized. God wants us to listen to Jesus and do what He says.

### PRAY

Pray, thanking God for Jesus. Lead kids to pray suggesting they could ask God to help them listen to Jesus and do what He says.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Parent Connection” (Item 10); Bible; soft playground ball. Print out a Parent Connection for each TeamKID. Place a marker at Mark 9:7 in your Bible.*

Gather preschoolers in a circle. Invite a child to open the Bible to Mark 9:7.

Repeat the verse together with the kids: “God said, ‘This is my Son; listen to Him.’”

Roll a ball to a child in the circle. Say: “\_\_\_\_\_ (child’s name), God wants you to listen to His Son, Jesus.” Invite the child who receives the ball to roll it to another preschooler in the circle and say, “\_\_\_\_\_ (child’s name), God wants you to listen to His Son, Jesus.”

Continue until each child has a turn. If time allows, repeat activity, rolling the ball faster each time.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 6

# THE CALL

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS CHOSE HELPERS TO TELL PEOPLE THE GOOD NEWS.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Called His First Disciples  
(Matthew 4:18-22; Luke 5:1-11; Matthew 10:3;  
Mark 3:18)

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 10).

### KEY VERSE

Jesus chose helpers. Mark 3:14

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- Tape
- "Follow Me Cards" (Item 19)
- Cardstock
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Washable markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### MAKE A BOAT

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Pool noodles
- Craft sticks
- Scissors
- Tape
- Craft foam
- Pool or tub of water
- Tarp
- Markers
- Stickers (optional)

#### LET'S GO FISHING

- Construction paper in various colors
- Scissors
- Paper clips
- 17-inch dowel rod
- String
- Magnet
- Marker
- Round blue tablecloth

#### MISSIONS

- "Even the Airwaves Obey Him Story" (Item 20)

### GAMES

#### GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)

- Cardstock in various colors
- Markers
- Parachute or large sheet

#### FISH IN THE BASKET (P 18)

- Hand towel
- 10–12 plastic toy fish or cardstock
- Basket
- Scissors

#### BLUE HUNT (P 19)

- Bible
- Blue items (toys, art supplies, clothing)
- Large bin

### CLOSING

- "Follow Me Cards" (Item 19)
- Cardstock
- "Parent Connection" (Item 10)

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# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 4:18-22 and Luke 5:1-11 (Jesus' call and the disciples' response) from your Bible or Bible app. Note the difference in how the disciples responded in each account.

## STUDY

Not many of us hear the audible call of Jesus to drop everything and come follow Him. Imagine how strange it must have seemed to the disciples to hear a man call from the seashore or the marketplace or wherever they may have been going about their daily lives and ask them to follow Him. Did they wonder, "Why me?" or "What does this Man see in me that makes Him think I am different than anyone else to follow Him and be His helper?" Did they worry about leaving their livelihoods and families? And in reverse, did they wonder who this Man was that He could even ask such a thing?

God didn't reveal all the answers to those questions in the account of Jesus calling His disciples in Matthew. However, if we take a look at the account recorded in Luke 5, we get a small glimpse into how a few of the men Jesus called felt. In verses 8-10, Simon revealed his feeling of unworthiness while James and John revealed their amazement. I love Jesus' response in verse 10. He says, "Don't be afraid ... From now on you will be catching people!"

Isn't that typical of Jesus to take all our doubts and fear and remove them? I dare say that many, if not most, of us respond to Jesus' call in much the same way as the disciples—with fear and doubt. Today as you are teaching preschoolers about Jesus choosing His helpers, remember that He has chosen you to be His helper as well.

## CONSIDER

- Consider where you were when you first realized Jesus wanted to have a personal relationship with you. Who was with you? What were you doing at the time?
- Ponder how you responded to Jesus.

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Pray and thank God for the calling you have received to follow Jesus. Thank Him for assuring you that you do not have to be afraid to do what He asks of you.
- Ask God to help you have the courage to follow Jesus and tell others about Him without pause.



## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: Tape. Mark a long line on the floor with the tape.*

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Invite the preschoolers to stand in a line on the tape.

Tell the kids you will call out a statement in which they have to make a choice between one thing or another. You will direct them which side of the tape to step to indicating their answer. Between choices, they will line back up on the tape.

Call out choices such as: “If you like chocolate ice cream, step to this side. If you like vanilla ice cream, step to this side.”

Continue calling out choices as time allows.

Point out that the kids made some pretty easy choices. Today they will hear about a time when **Jesus chose helpers to tell people the good news.**

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: JESUS CALLED HIS FIRST DISCIPLES (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); tape; “Follow Me Cards” (Item 19). Print and cut out a set of the “Follow Me Cards” (laminiate if possible). Lay out a winding path on the floor with the tape. Place the “Follow Me Cards” in random order and spaces along the tape line. Place markers in your Bible at Matthew 4:18 and Luke 5:1.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Review the following information:

- What are the two main parts of the Bible called? (the Old Testament and the New Testament)
- Which part tells us about the time before Jesus was born? (Old Testament)
- Which part tells us about Jesus’ life and ministry or what He did on earth? (New Testament)
- I have a new fact for you to remember. The New Testament has 27 books. Let’s say that together. (Repeat the statement with the kids.)
- You already know the names of the first four of those. Can you say the names of those books with me? (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)
- What are those first four books of the New Testament called? (the Gospels)
- The books of Matthew, Mark, and Luke tell us about how **Jesus chose helpers to tell people the good news.**

Ask adult leaders to help preschoolers find Matthew in their Bibles. Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

## **JESUS CALLED HIS FIRST DISCIPLES**

**BASED ON MATTHEW 4:18-22; LUKE 5:1-11; MATTHEW 10:3; MARK 3:18**

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Turn to the marker at Matthew 4:18.

- One day Jesus was walking on the shore of the Sea of Galilee when He saw two
- brothers. The brothers were casting (or throwing) a net into the sea because they
- were fishermen. Their names were Peter and Andrew. Jesus said to the brothers,
- “Follow Me and I will make you fish for people!”

Help preschoolers understand that Jesus meant that they would be telling people about Him.

- Immediately, the brothers left their nets and followed Jesus. As they continued
- on they saw two other brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They were
- also in a boat, but they were mending their nets. Jesus called to them and they
- immediately left and followed Jesus.

Turn to the marker at Luke 5:1. Ask adult leaders to help preschoolers turn to Luke in their Bibles.

- We can also read about this in the book of Luke. Luke tells about a time that Jesus
- was teaching a crowd of people near a lake. While Jesus was teaching, He saw a
- boat at the edge of the lake. The fishermen had left the boat and were washing
- their nets. Jesus got into a boat that belonged to Peter. Jesus asked Peter to row
- out a little from the land. Then Jesus sat down in the boat and began teaching the
- crowd.

- When Jesus finished teaching, He told Peter to go out to deeper water and let
- down his nets to catch fish. Peter told Jesus that he and his partners had worked
- hard all night fishing and caught nothing. But Peter agreed to let down the nets
- because Jesus had told him to. When Peter and his partners put down the nets,
- they caught so many fish that their net began to tear. They had to call for help
- from another boat that was nearby so that their boat would not sink.

- Peter and James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were scared and amazed. Jesus
- said to them, “Do not be afraid. From now on you will be catching people.”

Ask if kids remember what Jesus meant by “catching people.” If not, explain again that Jesus meant they would be telling others about Him.

- So Peter, James, and John took their boats to land, left everything, and followed
- Jesus.

Conclude with Matthew 10:3 and Mark 3:18.

- Later in the book of Matthew and then in the book of Mark, the Bible tells us
- that Jesus chose 12 men in all to be His helpers. Let’s count them together. Their
- names were: Peter, his brother Andrew, James the son of Zebedee and his brother
- John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew the tax collector, James, Thaddaeus,
- Simon, and Judas Iscariot.

## GOING DEEPER

Remind the children that **Jesus chose helpers to tell the good news** and He taught His helpers about God's kingdom.

Point out that Jesus' helpers were chosen to help Him tell others about God. Jesus didn't just choose one helper, He chose 12. Jesus doesn't want us to do everything on our own, He wants us to be helpers and help one another tell people the good news about Jesus.

Discuss who they know that are Jesus' helpers. (parents, pastors, Sunday school leaders, themselves, etc.)

Guide preschoolers to think of one way they can help one of the people they talked about share the good news. Encourage preschoolers to say, "I can be a helper, too," if they want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ask the preschoolers to line up at the beginning of the tape line.

Say: "Jesus told His helpers to follow Him. Today you will follow the path on the floor. If you come to a picture with a boat, I will ask you a question about the story. If you come to a picture with a net, we will say today's Key Verse together. (Jesus chose helpers. Mark 3:14) Once you have answered the question or said the verse, go to the back of the line and the next person will be the leader.

Ask the following review questions:

- What were Peter and Andrew doing when Jesus saw them? (Casting their nets to catch fish.)
- What did Jesus tell Peter and Andrew to do? (Follow Him and become fishers of men.)
- What did Jesus do when He got in Peter's boat? (Asked Peter to row out from shore, began teaching from the boat.)
- What did all the men do when Jesus called them to follow Him? (They left what they were doing and immediately followed Jesus.)

## CONNECT: WHERE CAN I TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS?

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); washable markers or crayons.*

Distribute Activity Books and lead kids to turn to page 16.

Invite the kids to decorate the word and circle the places they can talk to others about Jesus.

- **Ask:** Can you name other places you can tell about Jesus? (Discuss answers and offer other suggestions as needed.)

## PRAY

Lead children to pray thanking Jesus for choosing helpers to tell people the good news. Thank God for the people who teach you about Him and Jesus. Ask if any child would like to lead a prayer, but do not force if no one wants to.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### MAKE A BOAT

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); pool noodles; craft sticks; scissors; tape; craft foam; pool or tub of water; tarp; markers; stickers (optional). Cut the pool noodles into 3–4 inch lengths. One per child. Cut the craft foam to make triangular-shaped sails. Set the pool or tub of water on a tarp.*

- Remind preschoolers that Jesus chose helpers to tell people the good news and that some of Jesus’ helpers were fishermen who left their boats.
- Give each child one of the foam sails. Encourage her to write her name on the sail and decorate with stickers if desired.
- Help the children tape a craft stick to the back of their sails leaving a couple of inches of the stick showing at the bottom of the sail.
- Guide kids to press their sails into one of the flat sides of the pool noodle circles.
- Lead the kids to place their boats in the water to float.
- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 15 and lead the kids to complete the activity.

**Leader Tip:**  
Test the size of your sail to make sure it is not too top heavy to keep the pool noodle from tipping over in the water.

### LET’S GO FISHING

*Provide: Construction paper in various colors; scissors; paper clips; 17-inch dowel rod; string; magnet, marker; round blue tablecloth. Cut the construction paper into fish shapes. Place a paper clip on each fish. Print the words “Jesus chose helpers to tell the good news” on some of the fish shapes. Make sure each word is on a different color fish. Place the tablecloth on the floor and scatter the fish on top. Attach one end of the string to the dowel rod and the other end to the magnet.*

- Invite children to take turns fishing. Show them how to use the pole to drop the magnet onto the paper clip of a fish. Once the fish is caught, the child will bring it out of the pond.
- Whisper Today’s Point to each child as she catches a fish.
- Guide kids to place the fish with the words on them in the correct order and read Today’s Point (**Jesus chose helpers to tell people the good news**) aloud together.

**Leader Tip:**  
Use matching dots on the ends of the fish to help pre-readers put the verse in correct order.

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## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Even the Airwaves Obey Him Story” (Item 20). Consider reviewing the missions video, “Gospel Fills the Airwaves” from Session 5. Have your cell phone nearby.*

- **Say:** “God still chooses helpers to tell people the good news. Missionaries say yes to God when He tells them to go and tell people about Jesus.”

Invite preschoolers to listen as you read the missions story. After the story, ask preschoolers if they would like to make a recording on your phone saying a Bible verse together or singing a Bible song. Practice standing and saying a verse together or singing a song they know well. Then record the preschoolers on your phone. Be sure to let them watch the recording. (Ask parents’ permission before recording.)

If appropriate, make a call to a friend in your contacts list and lead kids to say the verse together or sing a Bible song. Explain that they have just helped you share the love of Jesus with someone. Remind preschoolers that they can be God’s helpers to

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- In this game, preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words to this session’s Key Verse or Today’s Point. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Key Verse or Today’s Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying some Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today’s Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### FISH IN THE BASKET (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 18)

- In this game, preschoolers will work together to pass “fish” down the line to place in a basket as a reminder that some of the men Jesus chose as helpers were fishermen.
- Remind preschoolers that **Jesus chose helpers to tell people the good news** and that some of Jesus’ helpers were fishermen who left their boats. Say: “Jesus told Peter and his brother, Andrew, that He would make them fish for people!” Remind preschoolers that we can be Jesus’ helpers when we tell people the good news.

### BLUE HUNT (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 19)

- In this game, half of the children will be “helpers” who will hide the blue items around the room and the other half will search for the hidden items. When each child has found an item, he will go and tell a friend what he found.
- Ask the children to guess why all the items they found were blue. (To remind them of water; that Jesus called some of His helpers from the seashore; Jesus taught from a boat a little ways off the shore.) Remind the children that you chose helpers to help in the game and others went and told someone what they found. Open the Bible and read the Key Verse—Jesus chose helpers (Mark 3:14).
- Say: “**Jesus chose helpers to tell people the good news.** He wants us to help and tell people the good news, too.”

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: "Follow Me Cards" (Item 19); cardstock. Make extra sets of the "Follow Me Cards" and cut apart. Mix the cards and place them facedown on a table or the floor.*

Ask review questions from the Bible story (used during Bible story time).

Invite the children to play a matching game by turning the cards over to see if they can find a matching pair. If the pair matches, ask kids to share one thing they remember from the story. If the pairs do not match, children will turn the cards back over and repeat the verse—Jesus chose helpers (Mark 3:14).

Play until each child has found at least one matching set.

Conclude by reminding preschoolers that **Jesus chose helpers to tell people the good news.**

### PRAY

Lead children to pray and ask God to help them tell others the good news about Jesus.

### DISMISS

*Provide: "Parent Connection" (Item 10); fish with Today's Point words from Let's Go Fishing. Print out a Parent Connection for each TeamKID. Lay the fish on a table or the floor with the words faceup.*

Guide kids to sit where they can see the fish.

Direct preschoolers to close their eyes or cover them with their hands. Remove one fish.

Ask preschoolers to open their eyes and guess which color is missing. The first to guess will tell one thing they remember about Jesus choosing His helpers.

Continue to play, removing fish one at a time.

Place all the fish back on the table and read Today's Point. Play again and challenge kids to identify which color and word is missing.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 7

# THE MINISTRY BEGINS

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS TOLD PEOPLE ABOUT GOD.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Began His Ministry (Luke 4:14-30;  
Matthew 4:23-25; Mark 1:35-38)

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 10).

### KEY VERSE

Jesus told people the good news.  
Matthew 4:23

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- "Scroll" (Item 21)
- Twine
- Scissors
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Washable markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### MAKE A SCROLL

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Tape
- Brown paper lunch bags
- Scissors
- Markers
- Twine
- Dowel rod or unsharpened pencils

### TRACE THE LETTERS

- White paper
- G, O, and D stencils in several different sizes and fonts
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors

### MISSIONS

- Coffee beans or ground coffee in a sealable bag
- Cue the "Bibles and Coffee" video.

### GAMES

#### GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)

- Cardstock in various colors
- Markers
- Parachute or large sheet

#### PASS THE SCROLL (P 20)

- Cardboard tube
- Marker
- Slip of paper

#### WHO HAS THE SCROLL? (P 21)

- Sheet of paper
- Marker
- Twine

### CLOSING

- "Scroll" (Item 21)
- "Parent Connection" (Item 10)
- Clean, empty can
- Strips of paper
- Stickers

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 4:22-30 (the response of Jesus' hometown) from your Bible or Bible app. Note how the people in Nazareth responded to the message Jesus delivered.

## STUDY

When you have good news to share, how do you usually get the word out? Do you jump on your phone and text your closest friends? Do you post it on social media to reach a wider audience? When we have good news to share we are excited and want to spread the news to as many people as possible as quickly as we can.

Jesus had good news to share, too. In fact, He had the best news ever. However, Jesus didn't have a cell phone, social media, or even a newspaper to get the word out. When Jesus began His ministry, it was not all about just performing miracles and healing people. Jesus knew His purpose. He knew peoples' greatest need was to hear the good news. In Mark 1:38 Jesus said, "Let's go on to the neighboring villages so that I may preach there too. This is why I have come."

Jesus knew He had great news to share and only a short time on earth to do so. To tell people this good news of hope, Jesus had to walk from town to town. Jesus shared the message with people, and those people shared the message with more people. That's how the good news traveled during Jesus' time. What are you doing to share the good news with people today?

## CONSIDER

- Consider how you have responded to Jesus' message.
  
- Ponder with whom and how you can share the good news about Jesus.

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Pray and ask God to give you the opportunity to tell others about Him and His Son, Jesus.
- Ask God to make you bold in speaking to others and to be willing to step out of your comfort zone to spread the gospel.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY: NEWS BREAK (5–10 MINUTES)

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Invite the preschoolers to gather in a circle.

Ask preschoolers to think of something that is good news to them, but not to say it aloud yet. You may have to give some suggestions such as, my birthday is today; my family is going on vacation; I just got a new puppy; and so forth.

Lead the preschoolers to stand up and walk around the room. When you call out, “News break,” they should find a friend and share their good news with him.

Play several rounds before calling the children back to the circle.

Point out that kids were telling one another good news. Tell the kids that the Bible tells us about Jesus and how He lived, died to take the punishment for our sins, is alive in heaven, and someday He will come again to make all things right.

Emphasize that Jesus told people about God and the good news.

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: JESUS BEGAN HIS MINISTRY (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); “Scroll” (Item 21); twine; scissors. Print out the “Scroll” and roll it up. Tie with twine. Place markers in your Bible at Matthew 4:23-25 and Luke 4:14.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Review the following information:

- **Say:** I’m going to ask some questions. If you know the answer, I want you to say with me, “I have good news!” and then we’ll answer the question together.
- **What are two main parts of the Bible?** (I have good news! The Old Testament and the New Testament)
- **Which part tells us about the time before Jesus was born.** (I have good news! The Old Testament)
- **Which part tells us about Jesus’ life and ministry.** (I have good news! The New Testament)
- **How many books are in the New Testament?** (I have good news! 27)
- **What are the first four books called?** (I have good news! The Gospels)
- **What are the names of those books?** (I have good news! Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)
- Today we are going to read from three of the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

## **JESUS BEGAN HIS MINISTRY**

**BASED ON LUKE 4:14-30; MATTHEW 4:23-25; MARK 1:35-38**

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Turn to Matthew 4:23-25.

- News about Jesus had been spreading throughout all of Galilee. He was teaching
- in the synagogues telling people the good news of the kingdom of God. (Help
- preschoolers understand that a synagogue is a place where people go to learn about Jesus
- and worship, much like a church.) Jesus also went about healing people from their
- diseases and sickness. Large crowds followed Him and everyone was talking
- about Him.

Turn to Luke 4:16.

- Jesus went to His hometown of Nazareth, and He entered the synagogue as He
- always did on the Sabbath day. (Explain that the Sabbath is a day set aside for rest and
- worship.) While in the synagogue, Jesus began reading the scroll written by Isaiah.
- Jesus read the words that Isaiah had written about Him hundreds of years earlier.

Explain that when Jesus taught, He used a scroll that had Scriptures written on it. A scroll was usually made of a paper called parchment and was rolled up. Hold up the scroll that you made (with Item 21) and read verses 18-19.

- “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news
- to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of
- sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s
- favor.”
- These words mean that the Holy Spirit was with Jesus and that God sent Jesus
- to preach the message of good news to the poor, to heal the sick, and to tell all
- people about God.

Roll the “Scroll” back up and tie it closed. Hand it to an adult helper.

- Jesus rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the helper. Everyone was focused on
- Jesus. Jesus said, “Today as you listen, this Scripture has been fulfilled.” Jesus
- was telling the people that everything God told Isaiah to write about Him was
- coming true, just as God said it would.
- At first the people all spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at what He told them.
- But the people still didn’t believe Jesus was the One God promised to send. Jesus
- knew that the people of His hometown would not believe He was the Savior God
- promised, so Jesus left Nazareth and went on His way.



## GOING DEEPER

Direct the children to sit in a circle. Explain that they will pass the scroll used during the story around the circle from one to another. When you say, “Pause,” the child holding the scroll will repeat one of the following truths after you.

- The words written on the scroll are about Jesus.
- The words on the scroll are true.
- God sent Jesus to teach.
- God sent Jesus to heal the sick.
- Jesus told people about God.

Play several rounds allowing each child to have a turn repeating after you. Allow children to hold the scroll one at a time. Encourage them to share one thing they learned about Jesus today and name a friend they can tell.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ask the following review questions:

- Where did Jesus go to teach and read the scroll? (*the synagogue*)
- What else did Jesus do besides teach about the good news? (*He healed people.*)
- Who wrote the words on the scroll Jesus read from? (*Isaiah*)
- Who told Isaiah what to write on the scroll? (*God*)
- What did the people of Jesus’ hometown think about Him? (*They didn’t believe that He was the Son of God.*)

## CONNECT: TELL PEOPLE THE GOOD NEWS

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); washable markers or crayons.*

Talk about the people who Jesus told the good news. Explain that Jesus wants everyone to hear about how much God loves them.

Provide the markers. Distribute Activity Books and ask kids to turn to page 18.

Direct kids to circle the people in the picture who need to hear the good news about Jesus.

Ask who they chose to circle. Remind kids that Jesus wants all people to hear the good news!

## PRAY

Lead children to pray. Thank God that all the things He said about Jesus came true. Thank Jesus for teaching and healing people. Ask if any child would like to lead a prayer.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### MAKE A SCROLL

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); tape; brown paper lunch bags; scissors; markers; twine; dowel rod or unsharpened pencils. Cut the bottom and sides from each lunch bag and discard. Keep the front and back pieces. You will use one bag for every two kids. Cut the twine into 12-inch strands. You will need one strand per child.*

- Give each child one piece of the bag. Lead them to gently crumple the bags over and over until they are soft.
- Guide the kids to lay their pieces out so that they are tall and thin. Lead them to draw pictures in the middle of their pieces. Suggest that they draw a picture of someone they can tell the good news to or a picture of someone who is a helper.
- Use the dowel rod or pencil to roll the top and bottom edges of the paper to make a curl on both ends.
- Help the kids tape the twine along the top edge of their scrolls to use as a hanger.
- As the kids work, talk about how Jesus read from the scroll and remind them that Jesus told people about God.
- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 17 and lead the kids to complete the activity.

### TRACE THE LETTERS

*Provide: White paper; G, O, and D stencils in several different sizes and fonts; markers or crayons; scissors. Cut out several sets of letters to spell God. Place the sets of letters on a table.*

- Give each child a sheet of paper and a marker or crayon.
- Call attention to the letters you have set out. Ask kids what words the letters spell. Assist as needed.
- Remind kids that Jesus told people about God.
- Invite the kids to use the stencils to trace the word God on their papers in different colors and in styles.
- Lead kids to recall the things God told Isaiah to write about Jesus on the scroll as the preschoolers work. Repeat the Key Verse—Jesus told people the good news (Matthew 4:23).

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: Coffee beans or ground coffee in a sealable bag. Cue the “Bibles and Coffee” video.*

- **Say:** “Let’s pretend to travel to London, England, to meet Christians who are telling people about God in a coffee shop. Watch and listen for ways that the missionaries and local believers are using the coffee shop to tell the good news.”

Play the video. After the video, invite preschoolers to take turns smelling the coffee in the bag. Ask preschoolers if someone drinks coffee at their houses. Do they smell the coffee in the mornings? Also encourage preschoolers to tell you about times they have been in a coffee shop with their parents or an adult.

- **Say:** “Isn’t it great that we can tell people the good news about Jesus anywhere at all? Even in coffee shops!”

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- In this game, preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words to this session’s Key Verse or Today’s Point. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Key Verse or Today’s Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying some Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today’s Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### PASS THE SCROLL (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 20)

- In this over and under game, kids will pass a cardboard tube “scroll” down the line. Children will alternate passing the “scroll” over their heads or under their legs to the next child in line.
- Ask the last child holding the “scroll” to take the slip of paper out and unroll it. Read Today’s Point—**Jesus told people about God**. Lead kids to recall the things God told Isaiah to write about Jesus on the scroll. Jesus read the words on the scroll and told people about God.

### WHO HAS THE SCROLL? (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 21)

- Preschoolers will play a game in which they try to guess who is holding the “scroll” behind his back.
- Unroll the paper scroll and read the Key Verse. Lead the kids to discuss what good news Jesus told the people. (That He was the One God promised to send, that He will save people from their sin, that God kept His promise, etc.) **Help preschoolers know they can tell others about the good news.**

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: "Scroll" (Item 21) from Bible study*

Review the Bible story. Ask review questions from the Bible story (used during Bible study time).

Remind TeamKIDS that God told Isaiah to write down good news about Jesus on a scroll and that Jesus read the scroll hundreds of years later to the people in the synagogue (church).

Hand the scroll to a child and ask her to say one thing she remembers about Jesus from today's lesson.

Continue passing the scroll to other children and let them answer as time allows.

### PRAY

Lead children to pray and ask God to help them remember the things He said about Jesus in the Bible. Ask God to help the children tell others the good news and about God just as Jesus did.

### DISMISS

*Provide: "Parent Connection" (Item 10); clean, empty can; strips of paper; stickers. Print out a Parent Connection for each TeamKID. Print the Bible phrase on several strips of paper. Place a sticker on the end of the strips. Cut several blank strips of paper. Mix all the strips of paper and place them inside the can.*

Invite the preschoolers to sit in a circle. Explain that the can will be passed around the circle. Direct the preschoolers that as the can is passed, each child will pull a strip of paper from the can.

- **Say:** "If your strip of paper has a sticker on it, we will say the words on the paper. If there is
- nothing written on your paper, we will stand up and sit back down."

Continue passing the can around the circle, stopping with each child to either say the phrase or stand and sit down, depending on the strip. Continue until all the strips of paper have been pulled out.

Say the Bible phrase one last time: "Jesus told people the good news (Matthew 23)." and remind the kids that Jesus told people the good news that was written about Him on the scroll.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 8

# THE KINGDOM OF GOD

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS HELPS US KNOW HOW TO FOLLOW GOD'S PLAN.

### BIBLE STORY

The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5–7)

### KEY VERSE

Love other people and be kind. Luke 6:27

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 10).

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- Blank index cards
- Markers and crayons
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### HEART CARDS

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- "Luke 6:27 Cards" (Item 22)
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Markers
- Heart or love stamps and ink pads (optional)

#### PRAYER POCKET

- 8 ½-by-11-inch construction paper
- Short cardboard tubes
- Wrapping paper
- Stapler
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors
- Glue sticks

### MISSIONS

- "Lattes for Lottie" (Item 23)
- Whip cream in tubs
- Spoons
- Cup

### GAMES

#### GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)

- Bible
- Cardstock in various colors
- Markers
- Parachute or large sheet

#### HANDS TO FEET (P 22)

- No supplies needed

#### STOP AND GO (P 23)

- Green sheet of paper
- Red sheet of paper

### CLOSING

- 4 pictures of a Bible
- 5 pictures of a heart
- Beanbag
- "Parent Connection" (Item 10)

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 5:3-12; 6:9-14; and 7:28-29 (the Beatitudes, the Model or Lord's Prayer, and the peoples' response) from your Bible or Bible app. Note the examples of how we are to treat others in the Beatitudes, how we are to pray, and how we should respond to Jesus' teaching.

## STUDY

I have been blessed beyond measure in my life. When I look back over my life and the things God has done for me, I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude and responsibility. There were times when I have been the poor in spirit, the one who mourns, or the one who was thirsty as Jesus mentioned in the Beatitudes. There have been times where God has given me my daily bread (just what I need for the day) or when I have asked for God to lead me from temptation, as mentioned in the Lord's Prayer. Those are times I felt an overwhelming sense of gratitude.

On the other hand, I recognize the overwhelming sense of responsibility that comes from being blessed. When we are blessed we have the responsibility to extend those same blessings and prayers to others. We are not just to thank God and move on with no other thought or action required. I not only have the responsibility to bless others, I have the responsibility to forgive others as I have been forgiven. That's a lot to do without seeking out God and His kingdom.

Today you may feel overwhelmed at the prospect of condensing all this information down and presenting it to the preschoolers you teach. Let me take a little of the pressure off. Preschoolers aren't ready to process all the instructions for living that God wrote in these three chapters, so let's put the focus for today on the Beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer, and our response to Jesus' teaching.

## CONSIDER

- Consider what it means to be blessed and how being blessed should be reflected in how we live.
  
- Ponder your response to the blessings you receive and the example Jesus has set for us in prayer and in life.

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Pray the Lord's Prayer placing your name in the prayer.
- Ask God to help you lead preschoolers and show them examples of love and kindness.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: Blank index cards (enough for at least 1 per child), 2 different colored markers. Print the word “Love” in one color on several index cards. Print the word “Kind” in another color on several index cards. Hide the cards around the room so they can be easily found.*

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Invite the preschoolers to search the room and find one of the cards you have hidden.

Instruct the kids to gather on the floor and bring back one card they found. Ask what two words are written on the cards. Assist pre-readers.

Direct the kids with the cards that have Love printed on them to sit together on one side of the carpet. Ask the kids with the Kind cards to sit on the other side of the carpet. Assist pre-readers as needed.

Read the Key Verse aloud—Love other people and be kind (Luke 6:27). Tell kids you are going to read the verse a second time. Ask the kids to hold up their cards and shout the word when they hear it in the verse. Read the verse, pausing at the words love and kind so that children can shout their words with you.

Gather the cards and direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT (MATTHEW 5–7)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); one index card with the word “Love” from opening activity and one with the word “Kind.” Place a marker at Matthew 5; 6:5; and 7 in your Bible.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Ask the following questions and lead preschoolers to clap their answers:

- The Bible has how many parts? (2 claps)
- How many Gospel books are there? (4 claps)
- In which part of the Bible are the Gospels found? If the answer is Old Testament, clap once. If the answer is New Testament, clap twice. (2 claps for New Testament)
- As the book title is announced, clap in which order the Gospel book is: Matthew? (1 clap); Mark? (2 claps); Luke? (3 claps); John? (4 claps)

Tell preschoolers that today’s story is found in the Gospel of Matthew. Ask adult leaders to help preschoolers find Matthew in their Bibles. Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story.

## THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT BASED ON MATTHEW 5—7

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Open your Bible to Matthew 5.

- Wherever Jesus went a lot of people went too. The people wanted to see Jesus and
- hear His teachings about God. One time when there was a large crowd, Jesus went
- up on a mountain and sat down. Jesus' disciples (helpers) came up and sat with
- Him. Jesus began to teach them how to love others and be kind. Because Jesus
- was teaching from the mountain, this part in the Bible is titled, "The Sermon on
- the Mount."

Ask adult leaders to point out the chapter title in the children's Bibles. Explain that mount is just a shorter way of saying mountain.

- In His sermon, Jesus told the people about what became known as the Beatitudes.

Point out this title in the children's Bibles. Explain that these verses help us know what God wants us to do.

- These verses tell how God wants us to be humble or put others first; to comfort
- those who are sad or try to help them feel better; to forgive; and to show love and
- kindness to others.

Choose a child to turn to the marker at Matthew 6:5. Assist him to read or say the title, "How to Pray."

- Jesus also taught the people how to pray in His sermon. He told the people when
- they pray they should not just pray so people can hear them and think what great
- people they are. (Be sure kids understand it's okay to pray in a group, but that we don't pray
- to make people think we're better than them.) Jesus said you should pray to God alone
- because He sees and hears you no matter where you are when you pray. Jesus
- also told the people they didn't have to use a lot of fancy words and make their
- prayers last a long time. Jesus said it's okay to just say what you need to say to
- God because He already knows what you need before you ask. Jesus even gave
- the people an example of how to pray called, "The Model Prayer" or "The Lord's
- Prayer."

Guide the kids to look at the heading in their Bibles for the Model Prayer. Choose a child to turn to the marker at Matthew 7.

- Jesus continued His sermon telling people how God wants them to share what they
- have and what to do when they are worried. He told people how to treat others
- with kindness and about God's kingdom. When Jesus finished His sermon, the
- people were amazed at the things He taught them.

## GOING DEEPER

Remind the children that **Jesus helps us know how to follow God's plan.**

Discuss the things Jesus taught the people in the Sermon on the Mount. Point out how the things Jesus taught help us follow God's plan to love others and show kindness.

Lead kids to discuss who they know that loves others and shows kindness. (parents, pastors, Sunday school leaders, themselves, etc.)

Pass the card with the word Love to a child. Encourage that child to share one thing she can do to love others. Direct each child to pass the card to the next child. Pause for answers and discuss as necessary.

Repeat the above step, this time passing the card with the word Kind. Encourage kids to share who they can be kind to. Allow each child to have an opportunity to answer.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ask the following questions to review the story:

- Who taught people about God's kingdom? (Jesus)
- What is one thing God wants us to do? (pray, put others first, forgive, show love, be kind)
- How did Jesus say we should pray? (by ourselves, not with lots of fancy words, not a long time, just say what you need, etc.)
- What did the people think when Jesus finished teaching? (They were amazed at what He said.)

## CONNECT: WHERE CAN I SHOW LOVE AND BE KIND?

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

Distribute the Activity Books and markers.

Guide kids to turn to page 20 in the books. Explain that they should put a check mark next to the places where they can show love and be kind to others.

Ask kids to name other places where they can show love and be kind. Offer suggestions as needed.

Challenge kids to show God's love and be kind at one of these places this week.

## PRAY

Lead children to pray and ask God to help them show love and be kind to others even if others are not being kind to them. Pray that kids will continue to read their Bibles to learn more about following God's plan. Ask if any child would like to lead a prayer.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### HEART CARDS

Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); “Luke 6:27 Cards” (Item 22); construction paper; glue; cardstock; scissors; decorating supplies such as markers, heart or love stamps, and ink pads. Cut out heart shapes in a variety of sizes from the construction paper. Fold each piece of cardstock in half to make a card.

- Give each child a folded piece of cardstock. Lead preschoolers to open their cards and glue one of the “Luke 6:27 Cards” inside.
- Show the children the pre-cut hearts and decorating supplies. Invite them to glue the hearts onto the cards and use stamps or markers to decorate their cards.
- Say: “Making a card for someone is a way to show him love and kindness. Love is more than feelings or words, it is also something that you do. Showing love is one way Jesus said we can follow God’s plan.” Encourage preschoolers to take their cards and give them to someone as an act of showing love and kindness.
- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 19 and lead the kids to complete the activity.

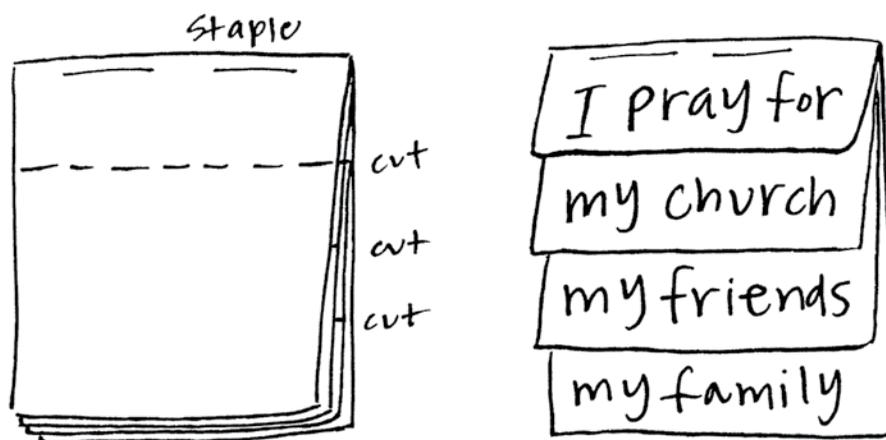
Leader  
Tip:

Lead preschoolers to think of someone they love to give their cards to. Help them write why they love that person inside their cards.

### PRAYER POCKET

Provide: 8 ½-by-11-inch construction paper; short cardboard tubes (1 per child); wrapping paper; stapler; markers or crayons; scissors; glue sticks. Cut the wrapping paper to fit the cardboard tubes. Cut the construction paper in half lengthwise (4 pieces per child). Fold the cut pieces of construction paper in half and place one inside the other. Staple along the fold. Cut the first three pages at staggered intervals making four “tabs.” Print “I pray for...” on the first tab, then “my church” on the second tab, “my friends” on the third tab, and “my family” on the last tab.

- Give each child a tube and a piece of wrapping paper. Lead her to use the glue stick to glue the paper around the tube. Set aside to dry.
- Distribute the books you made. Read the tabs and guide the preschoolers to draw a picture of what’s listed on each tab.
- Guide the children to roll up their prayer books and slide them inside their cardboard tubes.
- Remind kids of the things Jesus talked to God about in the Model Prayer.



## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “Lattes for Lottie” (Item 23); whip cream in tubs; spoons; cups. Consider reviewing the missions video, “Bibles and Coffee” from Session 7.

- **Say:** “We’ve been learning how Christians in England are using coffee to share the good news of Jesus. Let’s hear how a church in Kentucky used coffee to raise money to give to an offering called the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® for International Missions. This offering helps missionaries go all over the world.”

Invite preschoolers to gather around while you tell them the story using “Lattes for Lottie” (Item 23). If your church gives to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, remind preschoolers of your church’s participation.

- **Say:** “When we give money to missions, we are helping more people hear the gospel and follow God’s plan.”

Talk to kids about the coffee shop. Invite each preschooler to take turn putting a few scoops of whipped cream into a cup to enjoy.

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- Preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Verse or Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today’s Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### HANDS TO FEET (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 22)

- The leader will call out instructions for the preschoolers to follow. The instructions will all include touching two parts of their bodies together such as fingers to knees.
- Point out that preschoolers had to listen and follow the instructions given by the leader, ending with hands to feet. Ask preschoolers to recall what the last two parts of their bodies they had to touch were. (*hands to feet*) Remind the children **Jesus helps us know how to follow God’s plan** when we listen to His instructions. Part of what Jesus said to do is to love other people and be kind. Lead kids to name things they can do with their hands and feet that show love and kindness to others.

### STOP AND GO (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 23)

- Kids will play a version of “Red Light, Green Light” to remind them of the things Jesus taught people to do or not do in the Sermon on the Mount.
- Point out that the children had to listen and watch carefully before moving forward. Remind children that in the Bible story today, large crowds of people listened to Jesus and the things He taught them to do. Hold up the green sheet of paper and ask kids to tell you some of the things Jesus said to do. (*love others, be kind, pray for what they need, etc.*) Next hold up the red sheet of paper and ask kids to name some of the things Jesus said not to do. (*pray with fancy words so others think better of us, be selfish with what we have, worry, etc.*)

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: 4 pictures of a Bible; 5 pictures of a heart; beanbag. Place the pictures in a 3-by-3 grid on the floor alternating the Bibles and hearts.*

Direct the preschoolers to form a line a few feet away from the grid you placed on the floor.

Tell preschoolers that you will give the first person in line the beanbag. He will toss it to the grid. If the bag lands on a Bible picture, you will read one of the review questions from the Bible story (used in Bible study time) for him to answer. If the beanbag lands on a heart, the group will say the Key Verse—Love other people and be kind (Luke 6:27).

Continue the game with each child in line.

Conclude by reminding preschoolers that **Jesus helps us know how to follow God’s plan** to love other people and be kind.

### PRAY

Lead children to pray and ask God to help them remember to love others and be kind. Ask if any child would like to lead the prayer.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Parent Connection” (Item 10); beanbag. Print out a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Gather preschoolers in a line. Give the first child in line the beanbag.

Ask the child holding the beanbag to name someone she can show love to such as her mother, grandmother, pastor, and so forth. Continue passing the bag down the line and allow each child to share a response.

Direct the children to pass the beanbag back up the line but this time name a way to show kindness to others. You may have to share ideas such as, “I show kindness when I help my sister pick up her toys.”

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 9

# THE WAY TO THE KINGDOM

TODAY'S POINT: GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH THAT HE SENT JESUS.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus and Nicodemus (John 3)

### KEY VERSE

Jesus told people the good news.  
Matthew 4:23

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 10).

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- Flashlights (1 per preschooler if possible)
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Washable markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### NIGHTTIME PICTURE

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Black or dark blue construction paper
- White and yellow crayons
- Star and moon stickers

### GOD LOVES THE WORLD

- "Heart" (Item 24)  
White cardstock
- Shaving cream
- Blue and green food color
- Plastic knife;
- Paper plates
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Glue sticks

### MISSIONS

- "Williams Family Photo" (Item 25)

### GAMES

#### GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)

- Cardstock in various colors
- Markers
- Parachute or large sheet

#### WHERE SHOULD I GO? (P 24)

- Colorful paper
- Tape

#### DAYTIME OR NIGHTTIME? (P 25)

- Daytime and nighttime pictures
- Construction paper
- 2 large envelopes
- Tape
- Marker
- Upbeat music

### CLOSING

- "Parent Connection" (Item 10)
- Half sheet of poster board
- Permanent marker
- 7 different colors of construction paper
- Scissors
- Tape

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read John 3:1-4 (Nicodemus' question and Jesus' response) from your Bible or Bible app. Note how Jesus responded with an explanation that left Nicodemus with more questions.

## STUDY

There have been many times I have been confused or just couldn't understand something, so I have reached out to someone smarter or wiser than myself for help. Who do you go to when you are confused or don't understand something? Do you reach out to your parents, an older mentor, your pastor, or a trusted teacher? Nicodemus was confused about some of Jesus' teachings and he went to the best teacher (John 3:1-2) for clarification.

By all accounts Nicodemus was a "good" Pharisee who knew all the Jewish laws and customs. He knew the things he had been taught from a factual, legalistic point of view. On the other hand, Jesus pointed out to Nicodemus that if he had heard earthly things and didn't believe, how would he believe about heavenly things (John 3:12-13). How many times have we found ourselves in a position where Jesus could say the same to us?

So Jesus, in all His mercy and grace, does not leave us in a spot of confusion. He gently reminds us of what we have been taught and boils down the point into simple, understandable terms. Jesus tells us the good news of the gospel in John 3:16—a verse I am sure we are all familiar with hearing. As you teach preschoolers today, remember you are the one they are looking to for clarification; you are the one who can help them understand that God loves them so much, He sent His one and only Son to offer them eternal life.

## CONSIDER

- Consider what questions you may have about entering the kingdom of God.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Ponder the level of your understanding. Are you like Nicodemus, a person who knows these things on a factual level but not a heart level?

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Pray and thank God for loving the world so much that He was willing to send Jesus to teach us, to die for us, and to call us His own.
- Ask God to help you seek out answers to the things you do not understand about Him and His plan.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY: FLASHLIGHT I SPY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bible; flashlights (1 per child if possible)*

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Lead preschoolers to sit in a circle.

Give each child a flashlight and dim the lights. Tell the kids you will play “I Spy.”

Explain that as you describe the object, children will point their flashlights at the object when they guess it. Once everyone has his or her light shining on the correct object, choose a child to take a turn spying.

Continue playing as time allows. Finish by “spying” a Bible.

- **Say:** “The Bible tells us that God loved the world so much that He sent Jesus. Today, we are going to hear a story about a man who came to see Jesus at night.”

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: JESUS AND NICODEMUS (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available). Place a marker at John 3:1 and 3:22 in your Bible.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Ask the following questions and lead preschoolers to clap their answers:

- The Bible has how many parts? (2 claps) Old Testament and New Testament
- How many Gospel books are there? (4 claps)
- Which part of the Bible are the Gospels found in? If the answer is Old Testament, clap once. If the answer is New Testament, clap twice. (2 claps)
- As the book title is announced, clap in which order the Gospel book is: Matthew (1 clap); Mark (2 claps); Luke (3 claps); John (4 claps)

Remind preschoolers that the Bible is God’s Word and God’s Word is true. Tell preschoolers that today’s story is found in the Gospel of John. Ask adult helpers to help preschoolers find the book of John in their Bibles. Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story. Teacher tip: After finding the book of John in their Bibles, preschoolers may need to place their Bibles back under the chairs to help them pay better attention to the story.

## JESUS AND NICODEMUS BASED ON JOHN 3

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Invite a child to open the Bible to the marker at John 3:1.

- ⋮ There was a man from the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

Explain that Pharisees were religious leaders in Jesus' day. They studied God's law and knew it really well. They also dressed in fancy robes to make sure people noticed them.

- ⋮ Nicodemus knew that Jesus was a teacher sent by God because of all the things Jesus did that no one else could do.
- ⋮ Nicodemus was a church leader. Everyone knew he was a good man who always tried to do what was right. Late one night, Nicodemus went to see Jesus. He knew that Jesus was a good teacher who could do things no one else could do. But he did not know that Jesus is God's Son.

Ask kids to name some of the things that Nicodemus might have heard that Jesus did. (Healed sick people; walked on water, healed the blind, etc.)

- ⋮ Jesus knew Nicodemus was not perfect. Even though he was a church leader, Nicodemus still made wrong choices—just like everyone does. Jesus talked with Nicodemus and explained many things to him. Some things were hard for Nicodemus to understand, so he asked Jesus questions. Jesus answered Nicodemus's questions and told him: "I am God's Son. God sent Me so that all people could understand how much God loves them."
- ⋮ Jesus explained that God had a special plan for Him. Because of what Jesus would do, people could be forgiven when they choose to do wrong things. Nicodemus believed what Jesus said. He believed that Jesus is God's Son.

Choose a child to turn to the marker at John 3:22.

- ⋮ After Jesus and Nicodemus spoke, Jesus went to meet His helpers in Judea.

## GOING DEEPER

Lead preschoolers to say Today's Point with you—**God loved the world so much that He sent Jesus.**

Read the Key Verse to the preschoolers—"Jesus told people the good news"  
Matthew 4:23.

Explain that the good news is that God sent His Son, Jesus, to live, die on the cross as punishment for our sin, be buried in a tomb, and to rise again. If we believe in Jesus and trust Him, then we will live with Him forever.

Talk about how we can tell people Bible verses or stories we learn from the Bible as a way to help them hear the good news.

Encourage preschoolers to name one thing they can tell someone about Jesus and the good news. Guide preschoolers to make a heart shape with their hands if they want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Instruct preschoolers to make a heart shape with their hands if the statement is True. If the statement is False they will make an X shape with their fingers.

Read the following statements:

- Nicodemus went to Jesus at night. (True)
- Nicodemus knew Jesus was from God because of the things Jesus did. (True)
- Nicodemus never made wrong choices. (False)
- Nicodemus believed what Jesus said. (True)

## CONNECT: HEART CONNECTION

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

Distribute Activity Books and markers or crayons to the children. Ask them to turn to page 22 in their books.

Ask kids to repeat Today's Point after you.

Guide them to connect the hearts to place Today's Point in the correct order. Assist as needed.

Suggest that preschoolers can color each heart when they finish the activity.

## PRAY

Lead children to pray thanking God for sending Jesus. Ask God to help preschoolers learn and understand His Word. Ask if any child would like to lead a prayer.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### NIGHTTIME PICTURE

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); black or dark blue construction paper; white and yellow crayons; star and moon stickers*

- Give each child a sheet of construction paper.
- Lead the children to use the supplies to make a nighttime scene on their papers. Suggest they draw stars and a moon or use the stickers to complete their pictures.
- Discuss how Nicodemus visited Jesus at night and talk about their conversation as the children work on the pictures.
- Remind preschoolers that God loved the world so much that He sent Jesus.
- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 21 and lead the kids to complete the activity.

### GOD LOVES THE WORLD

*Provide: “Heart” (Item 24); white cardstock; shaving cream; blue and green food color; plastic knife; paper plates; scissors; crayons; glue sticks. Print a “Heart” for each child. Cut 6- to 7-inch circles from the cardstock. One per child. Squirt shaving cream in several paper plates for kids to share. Drop a few drops of blue and green food color onto the shaving cream. Use the knife to swirl the colors into the shaving cream.*

- Give each preschooler a circle. Show her how to press it into the shaving cream mixture lightly.
- Lift the circle up carefully and use a plastic knife to scrape off excess shaving cream. Set aside to dry.
- Give each child one of the “Hearts” and lead her to color in Today’s Point. Discuss how **God loves the world so much that He sent Jesus** as the kids work.
- Lead the kids to glue the heart on to the center of their circles.

**Leader Tip:**  
Punch a hole in the top of the circle and make a hanger with yarn.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Williams Family Photo” (Item 25). Display the Williams family photo.*

- **Say:** “Missionaries all over the world are teaching people about Jesus. Let’s meet missionaries Bobby and LaKeisha Williams who are raising their family in Louisiana.”

Show the family photo and read the caption.

- **Say:** “Did you hear how they lead exercise classes at the church? Stand up and let’s do a few exercises together, like we were a class at the church. Even things like fitness classes can teach people that God loves us so much that He sent Jesus. When you do exercises or play this week, remember to pray for the Williams family.”

Invite preschoolers to stand up and do some simple exercises in place. Ask for volunteers to call out an exercise (jumping jacks, knee raises, squats, run in place). Do sets of five repetitions.

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- In this game, preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words to this session's Key Verse or Today's Point. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Key Verse or Today's Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying some Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today's Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### WHERE SHOULD I GO? (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 24)

- In this game, preschoolers will move from one color of square to the next as the leader calls out instructions.
- Ask preschoolers how they knew where to go. (*They followed your instructions.*) Comment that when you changed the game and told the preschoolers how to get to the color you called, they had to follow the instructions to continue in the game. For example, if you told them to hop, they had to hop to the square. Tell preschoolers that Jesus told Nicodemus that God had a plan for him to follow.

### DAYTIME OR NIGHTTIME? (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 25)

- In this variation of "Musical Chairs," kids will look for pictures hidden under their chairs. The children will then sort the pictures based on whether they show daytime or nighttime activities.
- Remind preschoolers that they heard a story about a man who came to see Jesus at night. Jesus told Nicodemus about God and how much He loves the world.

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: Half sheet of poster board; permanent marker; 7 different colors of construction paper; scissors; tape. Print the Key Verse (Jesus told people the good news. Matthew 4:23) on the poster board. Cut the construction paper in rectangles large enough to cover each individual word of the Key Verse including the reference. Tape the top edge of each piece of construction paper over the words on the poster board. Attach the poster board to a focal wall.*

Ask review questions from the Bible story (used during Bible study time).

Call on a child to remove the first sheet of construction paper to reveal the word. Read the word and then direct the kids to say the word together.

Ask kids if they can guess the word that comes next. Choose a child to remove the paper covering the second word. Repeat until all the words are uncovered.

Say the verse together and remind kids that the stories in the Bible are real and the Bible helps us tell others about Jesus.

Talk about how we can tell people Bible verses or stories we learn from the Bible as a way to help them know more about Jesus.

Conclude by reminding preschoolers that **God loved the world so much that He sent Jesus.**

### PRAY

Lead children to pray and thank God for sending Jesus. Encourage children to pray, but do not force any child to pray who does not wish to do so.

### DISMISS

*Provide: "Parent Connection" (Item 10). Print out a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Gather preschoolers in a circle. Point to kids randomly around the circle and ask each child to stand up, quickly name someone they can tell about Jesus, and quickly sit back down.

Continue until all children have had a chance to share.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

# THE HEALER

**TODAY'S POINT: JESUS CAN DO THINGS NO ONE ELSE CAN DO.**

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus Healed and Restored (Matthew 8:1-17; Mark 1:29-38; Luke 4:38-44; 5:12-16; 7:1-10; John 4:46-54)

## PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 26).

## KEY VERSE

Jesus made sick people well. Luke 4:40

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- "Matching Cards" (Item 27)
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Beanbags
- Bookmarks (colored strips of paper or colored self-adhesive bandages)
- Activity Books (1 per preschool)
- Washable markers or crayons
- Additional self-adhesive bandages

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### HOW WOULD YOU FEEL?

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons
- Small paper plates (2 per preschooler)
- Craft sticks
- Tape

### MAKE CARDS

- Bible
- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers

### MISSIONS

- "Houses" (Item 28)
- Cue the "Intro to Amy Carmichael" video.

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

#### BANDAGE RELAY (P 28)

- Elastic bandage
- Toilet paper or crepe paper streamers
- Timer

#### CAN YOU DO IT? (P 29)

- Tape
- 2 poster boards
- Marker

### CLOSING

- "Matching Cards" (Item 27)
- "Parent Connection" (Item 26)

## LEADER DEVOTION

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### OPEN THE BIBLE

Choose two passages to read from the following list: Matthew 8:1-17; Mark 1:29-38; Luke 4:38-44; 5:12-16; 7:1-10; John 4:46-54. As you read, think about the commonalities and differences in these miracles. Who asked for the miracle? Where was Jesus in proximity to the person being healed?

### STUDY

Have you ever prayed for a miracle? Throughout my life, there have been a number of times I have prayed for God to work in miraculous ways. Family members stricken with cancer. Friends living through infertility. Prodigal children returning home. Sometimes God has answered these prayers in ways I had hoped and prayed. Other times, He has answered these prayers in ways that He knew best despite the requests I made. Regardless of the outcome, however, I know and believe that Jesus can do things no one else can do. And, He is still in the business of miracle working today.

In this session of TeamKID, preschoolers will hear four different stories of God's healing power. A leper cleansed. A mother-in-law healed. A servant made well. A son's life restored. What do each of these stories have in common? Faith. Sometimes faith was displayed by the person who was sick, as in the case of the leper. Other times, friends and family approached Jesus on behalf of someone else, believing in faith that Jesus could heal. Jesus can do things no one else can do. He did them in Bible times, and He still does them today. Do you have faith to ask Jesus to work in miraculous ways?

### CONSIDER

- Do you have faith that God still performs miracles today? Is there a specific situation where you can pray for God to work in miraculous ways in your life?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- As you read, think about the commonalities and differences in these miracles. Who asked for the miracle? Where was Jesus in proximity to the person being healed?

### PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Spend time thinking about the miraculous ways God worked in the Bible. Thank God for the ways He worked then and for the ways He still works now.
- Ask God to help you believe in faith that He is a miracle worker and that His responses to your prayers are always best.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: "Matching Cards" (Item 27); scissors. Print and cut apart Matching Cards. Make multiple sets if needed depending on group size.*

Welcome preschoolers to TeamKID. Share that in today's session, kids will learn about Jesus doing things no one else could do.

- **Ask:** "What might you need if you are sick or hurt?"

Invite preschoolers to play a matching game to find pairs of objects that people might use when they are sick. Spread the cards facedown on the floor or table. Invite a child to choose two cards. If they match, discuss the object on the card. If they do not, place them back facedown on the table. Invite another child to choose two cards. Repeat until all are matched.

- **Say:** "Today we will hear true stories from the Bible about people who were sick. They needed healing, and Jesus made these sick people well."

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: JESUS HEALED AND RESTORED (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); beanbag; bookmarks or colored strips of paper. Mark your Bible at Matthew 8:2-3; Mark 1:29-31; Luke 7:2-4,10; and John 4:47,50-51.*

Direct preschoolers to stand up. Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Ask kids to stomp their feet the correct number of times to answer the following questions.

- There are how many main parts of the Bible? (2)
- Right! These are called the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- How many books of the Bible are called the Gospels? (4)
- Right! Now, please say the names of those books with me. (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)
- Remind me whose life we learn about as we study these books. (Jesus)

Tell kids you will be reading about Jesus' miracles from all four Gospel books today. Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words. As each Bible marker is pulled, read the Scripture reference so that the children can understand in which book this part of the story can be found.

Leader Tip:  
Laminate the matching cards for durability.

Leader Tip:  
Colored self-adhesive bandages would work well as Bible markers.  
Post an allergy alert if using latex bandages.

## JESUS HEALED AND RESTORED

BASED ON MATTHEW 8:1-17; MARK 1:29-38; LUKE 4:38-44; 5:12-16; 7:1-10;  
JOHN 4:46-54

- Jesus did many amazing things while He lived on earth. In fact, Jesus did things
- no one else could do. These things are called miracles. As we look at a few
- different miracles from the Bible, remember that everything we read in the Bible is
- true. Today we will learn how Jesus healed people.

Ask a child to open your Bible to the marker at Matthew 8:2-3. Read the verses.

- “Right away a man with leprosy came up and knelt before him, saying, ‘Lord, if you
- are willing, you can make me clean.’ Reaching out his hand, Jesus touched him,
- saying, ‘I am willing; be made clean.’ Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.”
- Leprosy is a skin disease that causes very painful sores on a person’s body. In
- Bible times, people with leprosy had to stay away from their friends and family.
- This man with leprosy had heard that Jesus could make people well, so he asked
- Jesus to heal him. And, Jesus did! His skin was immediately healed when Jesus
- touched him.

Choose another child to open your Bible to the marker at Mark 1:29-31. Read the verses.

- “As soon as they left the synagogue, (church) they went into Simon and Andrew’s
- house with James and John. Simon’s mother-in-law was lying in bed with a fever,
- and they told him (Jesus) about her at once. So he went to her, took her by the
- hand, and raised her up. The fever left her, and she began to serve them.”
- Simon, Andrew, James, and John were some of Jesus’ special helpers. When Jesus
- found out Simon’s mother-in-law was sick with a fever, He went to her. Jesus took
- her by the hand, and she got up. Her fever was gone, and she was healed!

Choose another child to open your Bible to the marker at Luke 7:2-4,10. Read the verses.

- “A centurion’s servant ... was sick and about to die. When the centurion heard
- about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, requesting him to come and save
- the life of his servant. When they reached Jesus, they pleaded with him earnestly.
- When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant in
- good health.”
- A centurion was a commander in the Roman army. One of his important servants
- was very sick. The man sent people to find Jesus and ask Him to come heal the
- servant. The centurion believed Jesus could perform miracles just by speaking
- words. Jesus healed the centurion’s servant without even being near him. Jesus’
- words were enough to heal.

Choose another child to open your Bible to the marker at John 4:47,50-51. Read the verses.

- “When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea into Galilee, he went to
- him and pleaded with him to come down and heal his son, since he was about to
- die. ‘Go,’ Jesus told him, ‘your son will live.’ The man believed what Jesus said
- to him and departed (left). While he was still going down, his servants met him
- saying that his boy was alive.”
- The man in this story believed Jesus could heal his son. Jesus didn’t have to be
- with the boy to heal him. When Jesus told the man to return home because his son
- was well, the man believed Him. At home, he found his son had been healed!
- Jesus was and still is a miracle worker. Just like He healed people in New
- Testament times, Jesus still heals people today. **Jesus can do things no one else can do.**

**GOING DEEPER**

Jesus healed men, women, boys, and girls. It did not matter what sickness they had; Jesus healed many people while He was on earth. **Jesus can do things no one else can do.** Today there are many people who are sick and hurting. Jesus can heal them, too. Sometimes He uses doctors, nurses, and special medicine to heal people. Sometimes He performs miracles. Sometimes healing comes in other ways.

Ask preschoolers to tell one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can share with a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to TeamKIDS who want to share when it is their turn.

**QUESTIONS TO PONDER**

∴ **Say:** "Everything in the Bible is true. Every story actually happened."

Invite kids to listen to statements from the story. If they are true (really happened), lead them to give a thumbs-up. If they are false (did not happen), lead them to give a thumbs-down.

- ∴ Jesus sent the man with leprosy to the hospital to be healed. (*false; Jesus healed him!*)
- ∴ When Jesus touched the man with leprosy, he was immediately healed. (*true*)
- ∴ Jesus healed the centurion's servant by giving him medicine. (*false; Jesus healed him without even being near him.*)
- ∴ Jesus healed Simon's mother-in-law from a bad fever. (*true*)
- ∴ The man with a son who was very sick believed Jesus could heal his son. (*true*)
- ∴ Jesus can do things no one else can do. (*true*)

**CONNECT: FIND THE PATH**

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); washable markers or crayons; self-adhesive bandages.*

Distribute Activity Books and markers or crayons to preschoolers. Lead kids to turn to page 24 in their books.

Direct TeamKIDS to choose the path to help the man return home to his son who has been healed by Jesus.

Talk about how the man with the son who was sick trusted Jesus to heal his son. In fact, he trusted Jesus so much, he didn't question Jesus when He said the son had been healed. The man trusted even though Jesus was not near his son. The man just believed Jesus' words; he immediately went home to see his son!

Ask children to name friends or family who are sick. Print the names on individual adhesive bandages to give to the children as prayer reminders. Add the names to a prayer list to use during prayer time.

**PRAY**

Lead children in prayer. Be sure to include any names mentioned during the Connect time. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Thank God for healing people who are sick. Thank God that **Jesus can do things no one else can do.**

Leader Tip:  
Post an allergy alert if using latex bandages.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### HOW WOULD YOU FEEL?

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons; small paper plates (2 per preschooler); craft sticks; tape. Attach one craft stick to the back of each paper plate to make a handle.*

- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 23. Review Today's Point: **Jesus can do things no one else can do.** Ask: "How do you think the people and their families and friends felt when they were sick? How do you think they felt after Jesus healed them?" Invite preschoolers to circle the faces that show how they would feel if they or someone they knew was healed by Jesus.
- Distribute two plates to each child. Guide preschoolers to draw a smiling face on one and a frowning face on the other. Share different scenarios, leading kids to hold up the face that shows how they would feel. (Smiling face examples: going to TeamKID, singing your favorite worship song, reading that Jesus heals sick people. Frowning face examples: falling off your bike, a friend being unkind to you, a family member who is really sick.)
- If time allows, encourage kids to take turns making the statements while the other children hold up their plates to show the way they feel.

### MAKE CARDS

*Provide: Construction paper; markers; crayons; stickers. Mark Bible at Luke 4:40. Prior to session, ask a church staff member if there are sick people in your church who could use an encouragement card. Arrange a way to drop cards off for them, or choose a local nursing home where the cards can be delivered.*

- Open the Bible to Luke 4:40. Read the Key Verse: "Jesus made sick people well." Lead preschoolers to repeat the verse together.
- Invite kids to make cards for people who are sick in your community. Invite kids to decorate the cards. As preschoolers design their cards, discuss this session's Key Verse. Ask them to name examples of how Jesus made sick people well from the Bible story. Remind kids that they can pray for people who are sick. Conclude the activity by praying for the people who will receive the cards.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: "Houses" (Item 28). Display the pictures of houses around the room. Cue the "Intro to Amy Carmichael" missions video.*

- **Say:** "A long time ago, a missionary named Amy Carmichael saw many people who needed to be healed. Amy wanted the people around her to be healthy, but she also wanted them to know about Jesus. Let's learn about this missionary."

After playing the missions video, invite preschoolers to walk around the room with you. Stop and talk about each house picture.

Finally, ask preschoolers to stand with you next to the picture of the shack.

- **Say:** "This is the kind of house where missionary Amy Carmichael chose to live. Most of the people around her didn't have a lot of money. She wanted to live close to the people she was trying to help. She lived and started Bible studies in places where no one else even wanted to visit. She taught people that **Jesus can do things no one else can do.** As you grow and become closer to Jesus, you can choose to obey Him and go where He wants you to go. You can be part of God's mission."

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Open a Bible to today's Key Verse. Read it aloud. Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### BANDAGE RELAY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 28)

- In this game, TeamKIDs will work in groups to "bandage" and "unbandage" members of their team using toilet paper as bandages. Preschoolers will be reminded of stories in the Bible where Jesus healed sick people, specifically when Jesus healed the man with leprosy.
- Say: "Today we have heard stories about how Jesus healed sick people. Some people Jesus healed were covered in bandages. After He healed them, they no longer needed them! Healing people is just one of the many things Jesus can do that no one else can do."

### CAN YOU DO IT? (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 29)

- In this game, TeamKIDs will be asked to choose if the task given is something they can do or only Jesus can do. After a statement is read, preschoolers will run to the side of the room labeled "I Can" or "Only Jesus Can."
- Invite preschoolers to say Today's Point together: **Jesus can do things no one else can do.** Say: "When Jesus was on earth, He healed many people. This is something only He can do." Ask TeamKIDs to name other things only Jesus can do.

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: No supplies needed*

Ask review questions from the Bible story (used during Bible study time).

- **Say:** “Today we heard true stories from the Bible about times Jesus healed people. Jesus healed
- many people while He was on earth. Jesus still heals people today! Not only does He heal our
- bodies, but He also heals our hearts when we believe and follow Him. This week, remember that
- **Jesus can do things no one else can do.** That is what makes Him God!”

### PRAY

Thank God for the chance to hear true stories from the Bible that teach us that Jesus can do things no one else can do.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Matching Cards” (Item 27); “Parent Connection” (Item 26). Print out and copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Play the matching game used in the opening activity again. When a match is made, invite the child who makes the match to share one thing she learned at TeamKID today. Encourage preschoolers to share things they learned from the Bible story, Today’s Point, or the Key Verse. Continue playing as time allows.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 11

# THE CREATOR

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS CAN DO THINGS NO ONE ELSE CAN DO.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Calmed the Storm (Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25)

### KEY VERSE

Even the winds and the sea obey Him!  
Matthew 8:27

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 26).

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- Box fans
- Tissue paper squares or other lightweight objects
- Painter's tape
- Bookmark
- Beanbag
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Washable markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### NUMBER THE STORY

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- "Key Verse Sign" (Item 29)
- Heavyweight paper
- Plastic straws (1 per child)
- Different shades of blue washable paint
- Paint smocks
- Eye droppers
- Paper towels
- Baking sheets with raised edges
- Markers or crayons

### MEASURING UP

- Plastic straws (1 per child)
- Painter's tape
- Table tennis balls

### MISSIONS

- "Amy Carmichael Photo" (Item 30)
- Poster board or bulletin board paper
- Crayons

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

#### TOSS THE BOAT (P 30)

- Bible
- Parachute or large bedsheet
- Small toy boat or ball

#### TO THE OTHER SIDE (P 31)

- Cones

### CLOSING

- "Parent Connection" (Item 26)

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read various accounts of Jesus calming the storm: Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25. Put yourself in the disciples' place. How do you think you might have responded in the storm?

## STUDY

I love a good storm. There is something about the power of the wind, the brilliant flashing of lightning, and the billowing of thunder. There is one caveat, however. I love a good storm—as long as I have a safe shelter, a place of protection from the elements that still allows me to experience the majesty and might of God's hand.

There are a few things I've learned about storms over the years. First, they are inevitable. They will come, and they do not consult your schedule. Second, the way they affect people varies dramatically. My grandparents lost their home in a tornado a few years back; the house next door was completely unscathed. Third, they are often unpredictable. While meteorologists devote their time and attention to predictions, they are, at best, educated guesses on what will happen.

The disciples found themselves in a great storm. It was most likely unexpected. As they experienced the storm, they were terrified. Jesus was asleep. What a stark contrast in the ways the storm affected them. The disciples thought they were going to die. Jesus knew they were not. The disciples' faith wavered and unrest filled their souls. Jesus simply said, "Be still."

When the storms of life come your way, rest in the peace that only Jesus can give. The same God who calmed the wind and waves with a simple command is the same God who wants to carry you through the storms in your life and do things no one else can do.

## CONSIDER

- Many of the disciples were experienced fishermen. This certainly wasn't their first storm. In your own life, how have you handled different storms that you have faced?

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Thank God that He can calm storms (both figuratively and literally).
- Ask God to help you trust Him in the trials that you face and to rest in the peace that only He can give.

# LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

## OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: Box fans; tissue paper squares or other lightweight objects that will fly around with air from fan. Place fans in an area of room where preschoolers can move around freely.*

Welcome preschoolers to TeamKID. Share that today, boys and girls will hear a story of God’s power over creation—the things He made.

Invite preschoolers to stand near the box fans. Turn the fans on and toss the tissue paper squares into the air, allowing the wind from the fan to blow the squares around the room. Invite kids to try to keep the squares in the air and away from the ground. Continue playing as time allows. (Note: Make sure preschoolers do not get too close to the fans while in use.)

- **Say:** “Wow! That was some kind of wind! Today, we will hear another true story from the Bible about how Jesus did something no one else can do.”

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

## BIBLE STUDY: JESUS CALMED THE STORM (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); painter’s tape; bookmark; beanbag. Place a marker in your Bible at Luke 8:22-25. Tape a boat shape large enough for everyone to sit in on the floor in the Bible study area.*

Invite the preschoolers to sit in the “boat” with you.

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Share the following:

- The Bible has two main parts. (Hold up two fingers.)
- The Old Testament is in the front of the Bible. (Because kids will be mirroring you, hold out right palm.)
- The New Testament is in the back of the Bible. (Hold out left palm.)
- Together, they make the Bible. (Clap hands together.)

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

As you begin to tell the Bible story, start calmly rocking back and forth as if in a real boat on calm water.

## JESUS CALMED THE STORM

BASED ON MATTHEW 8:23-27; MARK 4:35-41; LUKE 8:22-25

.....

Invite a child to open your Bible to the marker at Luke 8:22-25.

- One day, Jesus and His disciples got into a boat. He told them to go to the other
- side of the lake. Sometimes Jesus traveled by foot; other times He traveled by
- boat. Some of His disciples were fishermen before they followed Him, so they had
- been in many boats before.

Read Luke 8:23.

- “And as they were sailing he fell asleep. Then a fierce windstorm came down on
- the lake; they were being swamped and were in danger.”

Make movements as though the ship is being tossed around in the water.

- A big storm came upon the boat. The winds and waves tossed the boat around. The
- disciples were very scared. But, where was Jesus? He was asleep on the boat.

Read Luke 8:24.

- “They came and woke him up, saying, ‘Master, Master, we’re going to die!’ Then he
- got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves. So they ceased, and there was
- calm.”

Immediately stop the boat motions.

- The disciples quickly woke Jesus because they were afraid they were about to die
- in the storm. Do you think you would be scared? I think I might have been! But,
- Jesus was not scared. He got up and told the wind and waves to “be still.” At once,
- the wind stopped and the waves calmed down. Everyone on the boat was safe.
- Even though the disciples had seen Jesus do miracles before, they were amazed
- that even the wind and waves listened to Him. I think they understood even more
- that **Jesus can do things no one else can do!**

**GOING DEEPER**

Can you imagine how the disciples must have felt when they saw Jesus sleeping during the storm? They were afraid they were going to die, and Jesus was sleeping through the storm. They had seen Jesus heal people from sickness and even raise people from the dead, but they were afraid in the storm with Jesus right beside them. **Jesus can do things no one else can do.** Not only is He the Healer, but He also showed He has power over His creation—the winds and the water obeyed what He said.

Invite preschoolers to make storm noises. Start by rubbing hands back and forth together. Transition to patting the floor with hands. Follow this with clapping and, finally, stomping. Say “Be still” at various times. Lead boys and girls to immediately stop making noise. Remind preschoolers that Jesus could do things no one else could do, like commanding storms to “Be still.”

Ask preschoolers to share one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can tell a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to TeamKIDS who want to share when it is their turn.

**QUESTIONS TO PONDER**

Call out the following questions:

- Why were Jesus and the disciples in the boat? (Jesus wanted to go to the other side of the lake.)
- What happened while they were on the boat? (A large storm came upon them; Jesus slept during the storm.)
- Why were the disciples afraid? (They thought they were going to die.)
- What did Jesus do that no one else can do? (He told the wind and waves to be still, and they stopped.)

**CONNECT: COLOR BY SHAPE**

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); washable markers or crayons.*

Distribute Activity Books and markers or crayons. Ask preschoolers to turn to page 26 in their books.

Explain how to use the shapes and color key to color the letters of Jesus’ name.

As kids color, remind them that Jesus still does miracles today. Ask them to suggest things that Jesus can do that no one else can do.

**PRAY**

Lead children in prayer. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Thank God for His Son, Jesus. Thank God that Jesus can do things no one else can do—even calm big storms by telling the wind and waves to be still.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### MAKE A SIGN

*Provide: Bible; Activity Books (1 per preschooler); “Key Verse Sign” (Item 29); heavyweight paper; plastic straws (1 per child); different shades of blue washable paint; paint smocks; eye droppers; paper towels; baking sheets with raised edges; markers or crayons. Print the “Key Verse Sign” on heavyweight paper (1 per child).*

- Invite preschoolers to open their Activity Books to page 25. Open a Bible to Matthew 8:27. Read the paraphrase to preschoolers and repeat it together. Guide kids to look at the picture on the page and find objects that do not belong on the boat. As kids work, review today’s Bible story. When finished, trace the words of the Key Verse.
- Distribute a Key Verse Sign and paint smock to each child. Help kids put on paint smocks. Review today’s Key Verse again. Place the paper on a baking sheet. Using the eye dropper, drop a few dots of washable paint on the paper. (Note: if paint is too thick, add a little water to desired consistency.) Demonstrate how to blow the paint around on the paper using a straw. Continue adding paint and blowing it with the straw until the picture is complete. Clean up any excess paint with paper towels.

### MOVE THE BALLS

*Provide: Plastic straws (1 per child); painter’s tape; table tennis balls. Make a “Start” and “Finish” line on the floor or table with tape.*

- Place table tennis balls at the “Start” line. Invite preschoolers to lie or crouch down on the floor and blow table tennis balls using the straws, attempting to get them across the finish line. Continue playing as time allows. Mention that when they blow through the straws, they are producing moving air. This air moves the table tennis balls all around. Share that in today’s Bible story, the disciples were afraid because strong winds were moving the boat they were in. Yet, when they woke Jesus up from sleeping during the storm, He simply told the wind and waves to be still. They were immediately still and the people on the boat were saved. Say: **“Jesus can do things no one else can do. He showed His power when He told the waves and wind to be still and they obeyed.”**

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Amy Carmichael Photo” (Item 30); poster board or bulletin board paper; crayons. Consider reviewing the “Intro to Amy Carmichael” missions video from Session 10. Show the Amy Carmichael photo.*

- **Say:** “Missionary Amy Carmichael was born in a country called Ireland. Then she moved to Japan as a missionary and then to the country of India. She lived in India for 55 years, loving children and teaching them about Jesus. They called her ‘Amma,’ which means mother. Jesus loves the children of India.”

Gather preschoolers around the poster board (or multiple posters if your group is large). Distribute the crayons and ask preschoolers to draw pictures of children on the poster. Urge them to cover the poster with drawings of kids. As they draw, comment on how different each drawing looks.

- **Say:** “Jesus loves children all over the world. We can be thankful for missionaries who also love children around the world and tell them about Jesus.”

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Open a Bible to today's verse. Read it aloud. Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### TOSS THE BOAT (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 30)

- In this game, TeamKIDs will try to keep a toy boat from falling off a parachute as it is tossed up and down. This game will help preschoolers review this session's Bible story and Key Verse as they try to keep the boat safe from the "wind" and "waves."
- Read Matthew 8:27. Invite preschoolers to repeat the verse together. Say: "The disciples were amazed when they saw Jesus calm the storm by telling the wind and waves to be still. **Jesus showed that He can do things no one else can do**, including showing His power over creation."

### TO THE OTHER SIDE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 31)

- Preschoolers will race from one side of the room to the other side of the room as they follow instructions using words related to today's Bible story such as "wind," "waves," and "be still." As they play, TeamKIDs will review key parts of the true story of Jesus calming the storm.
- Say: "Jesus and His disciples got in a boat to go to the other side of the lake. There was a very strong storm. When the disciples woke Jesus, who was sleeping, Jesus told the storm to be still. Immediately, it was calm. **Jesus can do things no one else can do.**"

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

### REVIEW

Lead preschoolers to fill in the blanks as you retell the Bible story.

• **Say the following:**

- Today’s Bible story is found in the \_\_\_ (New) Testament.
- Jesus and His disciples got in a \_\_\_\_\_ (boat) to cross the lake.
- A very big \_\_\_\_\_ (storm) came.
- The disciples were \_\_\_\_\_ (scared).
- Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ (asleep).
- The disciples woke Jesus. Jesus stood up and told the wind and waves to \_\_\_\_\_ (be still).
- At once the \_\_\_\_\_ (wind and waves) stopped.
- The disciples were amazed. Jesus can do things \_\_\_\_\_ (no one else can do).

### PRAY

Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to earth. Thank God that Jesus can do things no one else can do.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Parent Connection” (Item 26). Print out and copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Invite preschoolers to repeat Matthew 8:27 together: “Even the winds and the sea obey Him.”

Lead boys and girls in a game of follow-the-leader. Choose one child to do an action and have the remaining preschoolers repeat the action. Continue doing the action until a leader says, “Be still!” Stop that movement and choose another child to lead a different motion. Continue playing as time allows.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 12

# THE FORGIVER

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS CAN DO THINGS NO ONE ELSE CAN DO.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Forgave Sin (Matthew 9:1-13;  
Mark 2:1-17; Luke 5:17-31)

### KEY VERSE

Jesus made sick people well. Luke 4:40

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 26).

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## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- Copy paper
- Crayons

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Washable markers or crayons
- Bookmark
- Beanbag

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### WEAVE A MAT

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- "Weaving Mat Template" (Item 31)
- Heavyweight paper
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors
- Colored paper
- Glue sticks

### TOSS IN THE BUCKET

- 2 different-colored buckets
- Index cards
- Markers
- Table tennis balls

### MISSIONS

- Toy medical kit items or photos of medical equipment
- Bible
- Cue the "Medical Missions Starts Churches" video.

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

#### CARRY A FRIEND (P 32)

- Beach towels (1 per group)
- Stuffed animals (1 per group)
- Cones (1 per group)

#### ARMS ONLY TAG (P 33)

- Bible
- Bookmark

### CLOSING

- "Parent Connection" (Item 26)

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read the following passages: Matthew 9:1-13; Mark 2:1-17; Luke 5:17-31. Note that these passages include the calling of Levi the tax collector. In this session for preschoolers, we will focus on the healing of the paralytic.

## STUDY

What makes a good friend? Some characteristics that quickly come to my mind include loyal, caring, patient, honest, and willing to go the extra mile. I have done a lot of things for my friends over the years, driven many miles to see them, and spent countless hours talking about life with them. Want to know one thing I've never done for my friends? Cut a hole in a roof for them. Granted, I've never needed to open up a ceiling for a friend, but I wonder, if the task presented itself, would I?

That's where we find a set of friends in this session's Bible story. On a roof, making a hole, desperate to get their paralyzed friend to Jesus. Two things stick out to me in this story: friendship and faith. Not only were these men devoted friends, but they also showed deep faith that Jesus was a miracle worker capable of ultimate healing.

Jesus saw their devotion. The men who carried their friend in on a mat left with that same friend carrying his own mat. And, not only was there physical healing that day, but Jesus also made it known that He could provide spiritual healing, the forgiveness of sins. Can you imagine the conversations those friends must have had on the way home that day?

## CONSIDER

- Have you experienced the healing of a close friend? Reflect on the time before your friend was healed and the rejoicing that happened afterward.
  
- Jesus provided spiritual healing (forgiveness of sins) before He provided physical healing. Why do you think He did this?

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Jesus can do things no one else can do. Thank God for specific ways He has shown you this aspect of His character.

# LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

## OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: Copy paper; crayons*

Welcome preschoolers to TeamKID.

- **Say:** “Let’s pretend you cannot use your hands and arms. What are some things you would need to do to write something or take something with you somewhere?” (Allow kids to respond.)
- **Continue:** “What if you couldn’t use your legs, ears, or eyes? What would you need to do to be able to do things like get from one place to another or know what a flower looks like or what a book is about?”

Distribute paper and crayons to boys and girls. Invite preschoolers to pretend that they cannot use their hands. Challenge kids to write their names or draw pictures without using their hands. If time allows, invite preschoolers to write their names with their eyes closed or to put away their supplies without being able to use their legs. (Be sensitive to any physical needs in your class and alter this activity as appropriate.)

Share that in today’s Bible story, TeamKIDs will hear about a man who could not walk. But then, He met Jesus!

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

## BIBLE STUDY: JESUS FORGAVE SIN (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); bookmark; beanbag. Place a marker in your Bible at Mark 2.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Share the following:

- There are two main parts of the Bible: The Old Testament and the New Testament. (Have preschoolers hold up two fingers.)
- The first four books of the New Testament are called the Gospels. (Have preschoolers hold up four fingers.)
- Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are the four Gospels. We learn about the life of Jesus as we study them. (As you say the names of the Gospel books, count to four using your fingers.)

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

**JESUS FORGAVE SIN**  
**BASED ON MATTHEW 9:1-13; MARK 2:1-17; LUKE 5:17-31**

.....

Invite a child to open your Bible to the marker.

- Sometimes Jesus spoke to crowds of people on the mountainside. Sometimes He spoke at the temple (church). Sometimes He spoke from a boat. Other times He taught people in homes.
- There was a man who could not walk and had to be carried on a mat to get anywhere. Four friends of the man heard that Jesus was in town. They believed Jesus could heal their friend, so they carried him to see Jesus.
- Many people had gathered together in a home to hear Jesus. There was no more room for anyone to enter. Even the doorway was filled with people. The friends knew that they needed to get the man to Jesus.

Read Mark 2:4.

- “Since they were not able to bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after digging through it, they lowered the mat on which the paralytic was lying.”
- The Bible tells us that the men took their friend to the roof, made a hole in the roof, and then lowered the man to Jesus from the rooftop. These friends believed that Jesus can do things no one else can do. They believed Jesus could heal their friend.

Read Mark 2:10-12.

- “He told the paralytic—‘I tell you: get up, take your mat, and go home.’ Immediately he got up, took the mat, and went out in front of everyone. As a result, they were all astounded and gave glory to God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this!’”
- Jesus healed the man who could not walk. His friends carried him to the house and lowered him on a mat to Jesus. After the man met Jesus, he left with his friends, carrying that very same mat in his arms!

## GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** Over the past few sessions at TeamKID, we have learned about many miracles of Jesus. Can anyone name some of them?" (Healed sick, calmed storm, healed lepers, made people walk, and so on.)
- **Continue:** Let's say Today's Point together: **Jesus can do things no one else can do.** Do you believe Jesus can do miracles? Let's sing a song about believing that **Jesus can do things no one else can do.**

Sing these words to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It":

If you believe in Jesus, clap your hands.  
 If you believe in Jesus, clap your hands.  
 If you believe it's true  
 The things that He can do  
 If you believe in Jesus, clap your hands.

Use other motions such as stomp your feet, turn around, pat your head, and so on.

Ask preschoolers to tell one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can share with a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to TeamKIDs who want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ask the following questions:

- Why did the man's friends take him to see Jesus? (He couldn't walk. His friends believed Jesus could heal him.)
- What did the friends do when they realized the house was too crowded to get their friend to Jesus? (They went on the roof, cut a hole in it, and lowered their friend to Jesus.)
- What did Jesus do for the man who could not walk? (He healed him.)

## CONNECT: CIRCLE THE PICTURES

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); washable markers or crayons.*

Distribute the Activity Books and markers or crayons. Lead kids to turn to page 28.

Remind kids that the man in today's Bible story could not walk. He had friends that took Him to Jesus.

- **Say:** "You may have friends today who can't walk and may need your help. Circle the times below when you could help a friend who cannot walk."

Ask preschoolers if they can think of other times they might need to help a friend. Suggest that it might be a friend who needs another kind of help. (Being a good friend to someone who is lonely, cleaning up a mess, and the like.)

## PRAY

Lead children in prayer. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Thank God that He heals the sick and makes people well. Ask God to help others believe that Jesus can do things no one else can do.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### WEAVE A MAT

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); “Weaving Mat Template” (Item 31); heavyweight paper; markers or crayons; scissors; colored paper; glue sticks. Print out and copy a “Weaving Mat Template” for each child. Prepare according to template instructions. Cut colored paper into 1-by-11-inch strips.*

- Invite preschoolers to open their Activity Books to the activity on page 27. Review today’s Bible story as you look at the picture on the page. Mention that the man who could not walk was lying on a mat and was lowered by his friends to see Jesus. Assist preschoolers in connecting the different shapes to complete the picture.
- Distribute Mat Templates and paper strips to preschoolers. Show how to weave the strips over and under the cut strips of the template. Assist children in weaving, using an alternating pattern of over/under and under/over to weave the mat. When finished, preschoolers can glue the ends of each strip down. While weaving, ask review questions from the story or have kids help you retell the story in their own words. Remind boys and girls that even though the man who could not walk came to Jesus lying on a mat, he no longer needed the mat after Jesus healed him.

### TOSS IN THE BUCKET

*Provide: 2 different-colored buckets (one labeled “Old” and one labeled “New”); index cards; markers (use the same colors as the buckets); table tennis balls. Print the names of 10–12 Old Testament books on index cards using the same colored marker as the bucket labeled “Old.” Repeat the same for New Testament books.*

- Say: “The Bible is made of two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. In each of these parts of the Bible, there are different books. These books are grouped together by what they are about or sometimes who wrote them. For example, the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) tell us about Jesus’ life on earth.”
- Point out the two buckets labeled “Old” and “New.” Choose a child to pick an index card. Read the name on the card. Invite preschoolers to repeat the name together. Decide if it is in the Old Testament or New Testament (hint: match the color of writing to the corresponding bucket). Lead the preschooler to attempt to bounce the table tennis ball into the correct bucket. Continue playing until all cards are used.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: Toy medical kit items or photos of medical equipment; Bible. Cue the “Medical Missions Starts Churches” missions video.*

- **Say:** “Jesus made sick people well. Missionary doctors and nurses want people to know that Jesus can heal them. Dr. Derbyshire sees people choose to follow Jesus, and he has also seen a new church start.”

Invite preschoolers to play with the toy medical kit. While they play, talk about ways missionary doctors and nurses might use the equipment. After a short time of play, direct preschoolers’ attention to a Bible. Ask how a missionary doctor might use a Bible.

- **Say:** “Helping people get well is important, but missionaries know that it’s most important for people to choose to follow Jesus. A Bible is the most important tool because it tells people how to know Jesus.”

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Open a Bible to today's verse. Read it aloud. Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### CARRY A FRIEND (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 32)

- Preschoolers will work together in groups of four to carry a stuffed animal on a towel like the friends who carried the man who could not walk to Jesus. While playing, TeamKIDs will review this session's Bible story and Today's Point.
- Repeat Today's Point together: **Jesus can do things no one else can do.** Say: "Jesus healed a man who could not walk. Because the man's friends believed Jesus could do amazing things, they carried him to see Jesus. Many people saw this miracle and believed in Jesus, too."

### ARMS ONLY TAG (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 33)

- TeamKIDs will experience a basic challenge that a person who cannot use his legs might face (much like the paralyzed man in this session's Bible story) as they play a version of tag using only their arms. Preschoolers will review the Bible story as they play the game.
- Repeat Today's Point together: **Jesus can do things no one else can do.** Say: "Jesus healed a man who could not walk. Because the man's friends believed Jesus could do amazing things, they carried him to see Jesus. Many people saw this miracle and believed in Jesus, too."

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

Ask who, what, where, why, and how questions to review today's story.

- Who was in the story?
- What happened in the story?
- Where did the story take place?
- How did Jesus heal the man?
- Why did Jesus heal the man?

Remind preschoolers that this story shows Jesus can do things no one else can do.

### PRAY

Thank God that there is no one like Him. Thank God for true stories in the Bible that show us Jesus can do things no one else can do.

### DISMISS

*Provide: "Parent Connection" (Item 26). Print out and copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Invite preschoolers to repeat Today's Point together: **Jesus can do things no one else can do.**

Play a game of "I Can, Can You?" Invite a child to say something he can do. For example, "I can do jumping jacks. Can you?" Guide preschoolers to try to do jumping jacks together. Choose another child to share something she can do. Mention that there are many things we can do, but there are some things only Jesus can do.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 13

# THE COMPASSIONATE ONE

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS LOVES PEOPLE.

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### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Healed a Woman and Raised a Girl  
(Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56)

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 26).

### KEY VERSE

Jesus made sick people well. Luke 4:40

## AT A GLANCE

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### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- "People" (Item 32)
- Craft sticks
- Heavyweight paper
- Tape
- Scissors
- Bookmark
- 4 sheets of paper
- Marker
- Basket
- Index cards
- Beanbag
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Washable markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### DECORATE A HEART

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Crayons or markers
- Different-colored tissue paper squares
- Glue sticks
- Marker
- Heavyweight paper

### FIND IT, POST IT

- Bibles
- Sticky notes (4 different colors)
- Marker
- Large dry erase board or poster board

### MISSIONS

- "Medical Missions in Thailand Photos" (Item 33)
- Inexpensive adhesive bandages
- Construction paper

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

#### WHO TOUCHED ME? (P 34)

- Bible
- Bookmark

#### IN OR OUT? (P 35)

- Plastic hoops
- Index cards
- Markers

### CLOSING

- "People" (Item 32) taped to craft sticks
- Upbeat music
- Index cards
- Marker
- "Parent Connection" (Item 26)

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read one or two of the following Scripture passages: Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56. Think about the desperation of the woman and the desperation of the family whose daughter was dead.

## STUDY

I once was posed the question, “If you could have dinner with anyone from Bible times, who would you choose?” While there are some obvious choices (Jesus, Mary, Abraham, Moses, David, Paul, and so on), I think I would love to have a meal and conversation with the woman from this session’s Bible story. While we don’t know her name, her story is one of desperation, faith, and healing.

She had suffered from some type of bleeding disorder for 12 years. Old Testament law called her unclean. For twelve years, she had been ostracized, searching for a cure to no avail. Can you imagine her desperation? How many times had she gotten her hopes up, only to have them quickly dashed when healing didn’t come?

But then, she heard about a Man who healed. The lame walked. The blind could see. The deaf could hear. The lepers were made clean. The sick were made well. Crowds surrounded Jesus. She pushed her way through. “If only I could just touch His garment, I will be healed,” she thought. What faith! What hope! And, what a miracle! One touch, and she was made clean.

Jesus didn’t call her unclean. He didn’t push her away. When she came to Jesus after He questioned who had touched Him, He didn’t chastise her. He welcomed her. He loved this woman. Her faith made her well. Jesus’ love gave her new life.

## CONSIDER

- Have you ever found yourself in a desperate situation? How did Jesus reveal His love to you?
  
- Just for fun: If you could have dinner with anyone from the Bible, who would you choose? Why?

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Spend a few moments thanking Jesus for meeting you in moments of gladness and in moments of desperation.
- Ask God to help you trust in His love for you.

# LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

## OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: "People" (Item 32); craft sticks; heavyweight paper; tape; scissors. Copy and cut apart "People" printable. Attach each cutout to a craft stick with tape. Hide these in a designated area of the room.*

Welcome preschoolers to TeamKID. Share that today kids will learn about how Jesus loves people.

- **Say:** "People come in all shapes and sizes. They have different-colored skin, different-colored hair, and different-colored clothes they like. No matter what people look like, however, Jesus loves them, and He is kind to those He loves."

Invite preschoolers to look for the hidden "people" in your room. When all are found, gather in a circle. Hold up each person (one at a time). Ask a boy or girl to name someone Jesus loves. (This can be someone in the room, a family member, friend, neighbor, and so on.) Remind preschoolers that Jesus loves all people. If time allows, rehide people and play the game again.

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

## BIBLE STUDY: JESUS HEALED A WOMAN AND RAISED A GIRL (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); bookmark; 4 sheets of paper; marker; basket; index cards; beanbag. Mark your Bible at Mark 5:22. Print "Matthew"; "Mark"; "Luke"; and "John" in large letters on each sheet of paper. Print each review question (see "Review the Bible Story" for questions) on index cards. Place cards in basket.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see.

- **Ask:** What are the first four books of the New Testament called? (the Gospels)
- **Say:** Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are the four Gospels. We learn about the life of Jesus as we study them. (Hold up each paper with the Bible book names on them. Invite preschoolers to repeat the names after you say them. Hang these on the wall when finished to refer to throughout future TeamKID sessions.)

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

## JESUS HEALED A WOMAN AND RAISED A GIRL BASED ON MATTHEW 9:18-26; MARK 5:21-43; LUKE 8:40-56

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Invite a child to open your Bible to the marker.

- Everywhere Jesus went, crowds followed Him. One day, a man named Jairus came to Jesus.

Read Mark 5:22-23.

- “When he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet and begged him earnestly, ‘My little daughter is dying. Come and lay your hands on her so that she can get well and live.’”
- Jesus went with Jairus toward his home. As they traveled, the crowds pressed up against Jesus. There was a woman in the crowd who had suffered with an illness for 12 years. No doctors could help her get well. The woman knew that Jesus could heal her.

Read Mark 5:27-28.

- “She came up behind him in the crowd and touched his clothing. For she said, ‘If I just touch his clothes, I’ll be made well.’”
- Immediately, she was healed. Jesus knew His power had gone out from Him when she touched His clothes. He looked at the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?”

Read Mark 5:31.

- “His disciples said to Him, ‘You see the crowd pressing against you, and yet you say, “Who touched me?”’”
- The woman who touched Jesus’ clothes was afraid, but she came to Jesus and told Him the truth. Jesus was amazed at her faith.
- People came from Jairus’ house and told him that his daughter had died. Jesus told Jairus not to be afraid but to believe. When they reached Jairus’ house, Jesus took Peter, James, John, Jarius, and the girl’s mom to where the girl was. Jesus took the girl by the hand and said to her, “Little girl, get up.”

Read Mark 5:42.

- “Immediately the girl got up and began to walk. She was 12 years old. At this they were utterly astounded.”
- Astounded means that they were amazed! Jesus showed His love for people by making sick people well and by showing kindness to those He met.

## GOING DEEPER

**Jesus loves people.** (Lead preschoolers to repeat Today's Point together.)

- **Say:** No matter who you are or where you live, Jesus loves you. No matter if you are a kid or a
- grandparent, a baby or a parent, Jesus loves you. If you are sick, Jesus loves you. If you are healthy,
- Jesus loves you. No matter what, Jesus loves you.

Lead preschoolers to sing "Jesus Loves Me" together.

Ask preschoolers to share one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can tell a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to TeamKIDs who want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Invite a child to choose a card from the basket. Read the question and discuss the answer. Repeat for each card.

- Why did Jairus come to see Jesus? (He wanted Jesus to heal his daughter.)
- As Jesus was walking, a woman touched His clothing. Why did she do this? (She had been sick for many years; she wanted Jesus to heal her and believed by touching His clothes, she would be healed.)
- What happened to the woman when she touched Jesus' clothing? (She was immediately healed.)
- What did Jesus tell the girl when He was with her? (He told her to "get up," and immediately, she got up!)

## CONNECT: DRAW AND COLOR

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); washable markers or crayons*

In our story today, Jesus showed one woman His love by healing her. He showed a man His love by healing his daughter. Jesus shows love in many ways—healing, providing food, and calming storms.

- **Ask:** "What are some ways you know Jesus loves you?"

Distribute the Activity Books and markers or crayons. Direct kids to turn to page 30.

- **Say:** "Jesus loves everyone. Draw a picture of people Jesus loves in the frame. (Remember—Jesus loves all people!) When you are finished, color the hearts around the frame using the number key."

## PRAY

Lead children in prayer. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Thank God for loving people. Thank God for showing kindness to those He loves by healing them from sickness.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### DECORATE A HEART

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); crayons or markers; different-colored tissue paper squares; glue sticks; marker; heavyweight paper. Draw a large heart on heavyweight paper. (1 per child) (Note: if you need a pattern, use “Heart Lacing Template” [Item 36] from Session 16.) Print “Jesus loves people” above or below the heart.*

- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 29. Review Today’s Point: **Jesus loves people**. Discuss different types of people Jesus loves, reminding preschoolers that Jesus loves all people. Assist preschoolers in matching the pictures of people to their shadows on the Activity Page as you review today’s Bible story.
- Distribute a paper with a heart on it to each preschooler. Demonstrate how to apply glue to the paper and then press tissue paper squares on the heart until it is completely decorated. Remind preschoolers that, just like the paper says, **“Jesus loves people.”** Mention that like the different colors of tissue paper squares on the heart, Jesus loves all people, no matter if they are old or young, sick or well, boy or girl, and so on.

### FIND IT, POST IT

*Provide: Bible; sticky notes (4 different colors); marker; large dry erase board or poster board. Print these book names on the dry erase board or poster board: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John. Print the individual letters that make up these names on separate sticky notes (one letter per note). Use different-colored sticky notes for each of these books. Mark these books in Bibles with corresponding colored sticky notes. Stick the notes around the room for preschoolers to find.*

- Open a Bible to the book of Matthew. Say: “The first four books of the New Testament are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Let’s say those names together.” (Repeat Bible book names a few times using different tones of voice.) Mention that throughout the room there are sticky notes with letters that make up the names of these different books of the Bible. Lead preschoolers to find the sticky notes, put them together according to color, and stick them on the board under the Bible book name in the correct order. Once a book name is completed, invite preschoolers to open a Bible to the corresponding colored sticky note in the Bible and say the name of the book together. Repeat activity as time allows.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Medical Missions in Thailand Photos” (Item 33); inexpensive adhesive bandages; construction paper. Consider reviewing the “Medical Missions Starts Churches” video. Invite preschoolers to sit with you and look at the photos.*

- **Say:** “These are pictures of people in Thailand helping people get well and telling them about Jesus. Missionaries who are also doctors and nurses live around the world and tell people that Jesus loves them. Maybe one day you will be a missionary doctor!”

Show the photos. Invite preschoolers to make a picture on their paper using the adhesive bandages. Consider giving each preschooler the same number of bandages and show them how to stick them to the paper. As they work, walk around and print *We pray for missionary doctors* at the top of each paper. Ask them to take their papers home to show their families.

Leader Tip:  
Post an allergy alert if using latex bandages.

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Open a Bible to today's verse. Read it aloud.
- Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### WHO TOUCHED ME? (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 34)

- In this game, TeamKIDs will take turns trying to figure out who tapped them on the shoulder as they revisit today's Bible story about the woman touching Jesus' clothing in order to be healed from her illness. Preschoolers will be reminded of the woman's belief that Jesus could heal her just by touching His clothes.
- Ask: "Why did the woman touch Jesus' clothing?" Mention that she believed by touching His clothes that she would be healed. Say: "That is exactly what happened! When she touched Jesus' clothing, she was immediately well. Jesus showed His love to her as He healed her."

### IN OR OUT? (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 35)

- In this game, preschoolers will explore the Bible skill of recognizing names of Bible books. If boys and girls think a book title given is an actual book in the Bible, they will jump in a plastic hoop. If it is not in the Bible, they will jump out of the hoop.
- Say: "There are 66 books in the Bible. Each book has its own title and helps us know more about God. The books of the Bible are in a certain order. We can learn this order to help us find the part we want to read."

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## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: "People" (Item 32); cutouts taped to craft sticks (used during opening activity); upbeat music; index cards; marker. Print the following words on index cards: Jesus, sick woman, Jairus, Jairus's daughter, Get up!, clothes.*

Invite preschoolers to choose index cards. Read the phrases one at a time.

Ask TeamKIDs to tell how the word(s) relates to the Bible story. (Jesus: healed a sick woman, raised a dead girl to life; sick woman: touched Jesus' clothes and was healed; Jairus: believed Jesus could heal his daughter; jairus's daughter: raised from the dead; Get up!: words Jesus used to raise the girl; clothes: the woman touched Jesus' clothes and was healed.)

### PRAY

Thank God for loving people and caring for them. As you pray, go around the room and name each child as you thank Jesus for loving people. (Example: Thank You, Jesus, for loving \_\_\_\_ [child's name].)

### DISMISS

*Provide: "Parent Connection" (Item 26). Print out and copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Gather preschoolers in a circle. Give a few different TeamKIDs a person cutout to hold. Start the music. Guide preschoolers to pass the people around the circle in a clockwise direction as the music plays. Stop the music. Invite boys and girls holding people in their hands to name something they learned at TeamKID or to name someone who Jesus loves. Repeat activity as time allows.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 14

# THE SENDER

TODAY'S POINT: PEOPLE AT CHURCH HELP OTHERS.

### BIBLE STORY

The Harvest and the Twelve  
(Matthew 9:35-10:15; Mark 3:13-19; Mark 6:7-13;  
Luke 9:1-6; 10:1-12)

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 26).

### KEY VERSE

Jesus said, "Go and help others."  
Luke 10:37

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- "Maps" (Item 34)
- Colored cardstock
- Scissors
- 3 different-colored paper strips to use as bookmarks
- Beanbag
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Washable markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### FOLLOW THE LINE

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Crayons or markers
- Painter's tape
- 4 or 5 Bibles
- Bookmarks

### MAKE PUPPETS

- Paper lunch bags
- Googly eyes
- Glue
- Crayons or markers
- Yarn
- Scissors

### MISSIONS

- Tarps or plastic tablecloths
- Cue the "Gifts of Hope" video.

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

#### TELL OTHERS RELAY (P 36)

- Large interlocking blocks (at least 1 per child)
- Tape

#### STAY, STAY, GO (P 37)

- Bible

### CLOSING

- "Parent Connection" (Item 26)

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# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read the following passages: Matthew 9:35–10:15; Mark 3:13-19; 6:7-13; Luke 9:1-6; 10:1-12. Reflect on Matthew 9:37.

## STUDY

My husband and I love to travel. Our approach as we prepare, however, is vastly different. Whether we are gone for a week or a day, he seems to always be able to fit everything he needs in one small bag. When I pack, however, I tend to overthink things. After all, you never know when it might snow in Florida or if you might have an unfortunate spill requiring an extra outfit every day of the trip. As long as we aren't paying for checked baggage, my husband usually just laughs as he loads the car.

In this week's TeamKID session, preschoolers will hear about Jesus sending out His disciples and others to tell people about Him. Jesus had specific instructions for them as they went out. No hotel reservations. No snacks for the road. No extra clothes or shoes. Not even extra money in case of emergencies. No GPS navigation. Jesus wanted His disciples to trust that God would provide for their needs as they went out to do His work. And, as a result of their faithfulness in the mission at hand, Jesus' name spread to many more places.

## CONSIDER

- Jesus said, “The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few” (Matthew 9:37). Is there someone in your life who needs to hear the good news of Jesus? Will you commit to sharing God's love with him or her this week?

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Thank God for the many missionaries (both stateside and international) who have committed to telling others about Jesus. Pray for their provision and protection.
- Pray the words of Jesus in Matthew 9:38: “Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.” Pray that you will be committed to sharing the gospel with the people around you, as well.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Maps” (Item 34); colored cardstock; scissors. Copy “Maps” on different colored cardstock. Cut each map into five or six puzzle pieces.*

Welcome preschoolers to TeamKID. Invite them to choose a puzzle to assemble. Guide boys and girls to work together to complete the map puzzles. When finished, rotate puzzles and continue assembling puzzles.

- **Ask:** “What do you think these puzzles are pictures of?” (Allow time for responses.)
  
- **Say:** “If you said ‘maps,’ you are correct! A map helps us know where to go. In today’s Bible story, Jesus told His disciples and some of His followers to ‘go’ and tell others about Him. When we travel to different places, we often need some type of map or directions to know where to go. Sometimes maps are on paper and sometimes people use maps that are on their phones.”

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: THE HARVEST AND THE TWELVE (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); 3 different-colored paper strips to use as bookmarks; beanbag. Mark your Bible at Matthew 9:35; Mark 6:8; and Luke 10:1.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see.

- **Say:** There are four Gospel books in the New Testament. Let’s practice saying the names of these books in order.

Lead preschoolers in the following rhyme activity:

“Gospel books, let’s clap on. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.” (Say these while clapping. Change clap to stomp, tap, or pat and repeat.)

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

**THE HARVEST AND THE TWELVE**  
**BASED ON MATTHEW 9:35–10:15; MARK 3:13-19; MARK 6:7-13;**  
**LUKE 9:1-6; 10:1-12**

.....

Invite a child to open your Bible to the first marker. Read Matthew 9:35-36a.

- “Jesus continued going around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their
- synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease
- and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he felt compassion for them.”
- Compassion is one way we can show love. This means that we can show people
- that we care. Jesus knew He needed help to spread the good news of His love to
- others. There were many people in many places who needed to hear about Jesus.
- Jesus brought His 12 disciples together. Their names were Simon Peter, Andrew,
- James (son of Zebedee), John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James (son
- of Alphaeus), Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas. He gave them the power to
- heal people. Jesus gave them instructions to go out and tell others about Him.

Invite a child to open your Bible to the second marker. Read Mark 6:8-9,12-13.

- “Jesus instructed them to take nothing for the road except a staff—no bread, no
- traveling bag, no money in their belts, but to wear sandals and not put on an extra
- shirt. ... So they went out and preached and healed many sick people.”
- A staff is a long straight stick that people use to help while they are walking. The
- roads might have been hard to travel. The helpers might have even had to climb
- some place to tell people about Jesus. But that, and the clothes they were wearing,
- were all they took with them. The disciples trusted that God would provide for
- them as they went from town to town. They were sent out in groups of two to tell
- others about God’s love. Even still, God needed more helpers.

Invite a child to open your Bible to the third marker. Read Luke 10:1.

- “After this, the Lord chose 72 others, and he sent them ahead of him in pairs to
- every town and place where he himself was about to go.”
- Jesus knew there were many people who needed to hear the good news of God’s
- love. He sent many people to tell others about Him. Today, Jesus wants people to
- tell others about Him, as well.



## GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** Jesus wants people to tell others about Him. That includes us! Jesus wants each of us to tell everyone we meet about God's great love. We can tell people about Jesus everywhere we go. Let's think about different places where we can tell people about Jesus.

Lead preschoolers in a game of charades. Play out different locations preschoolers are familiar with and let them guess what place you are showing. (Examples: make a steeple with your hands above your head for church; pretend to swing or go down a slide for a park/playground; pretend to eat for a restaurant; pretend to write or raise your hand for school; pretend to drive a car.)

- **Say:** Another way to tell people about Jesus is to help them. **People at church help others.**

Play another game of charades, playing out different ways that the church can help people. (Examples: serving food, mowing lawns, painting houses, and the like.)

Ask preschoolers to share one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can tell a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to TeamKIDS who want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ask the following questions:

- Why did Jesus send out people to tell others about Him? (There were many people who needed to hear about God's love.)
- What did Jesus tell the disciples to take with them as they traveled? (a staff and their sandals)
- What did the disciples do when they were sent out by Jesus? (healed people, told people about Jesus)

## CONNECT: GOING ON A JOURNEY

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

Distribute Activity Books and markers or crayons. Ask kids to turn to page 32. Remind kids that Jesus told the disciples what to take with them on their journeys.

Direct kids to circle two things that the disciples would take with them. (staff and sandals)

- **Say:** "Missionaries today also travel to tell people about Jesus."

Instruct kids to draw a square around things today's missionaries might take with them on a journey.

Remind preschoolers that even though Jesus asks people to travel to other places to tell about His love, He also wants us to tell people who live nearby. Ask kids to suggest ways they could tell people about Jesus. (Help with suggestions such as: taking cookies to a neighbor, inviting friends to church, being kind to friends, etc.)

## PRAY

Lead children in prayer. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Thank God for people who tell us about Jesus. Ask God to help TeamKIDS tell others about Him, too.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

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### FOLLOW THE LINE

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); crayons or markers; painter's tape; 4 or 5 Bibles; bookmarks. Make 4 or 5 different lines on the floor using painter's tape. Use different patterns (zig-zag, straight, staircase, and so on). Place a Bible marked at Luke 10:37 at the end of each line.*

- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 31. Complete the activity by tracing the lines from the people on the left to different places on the right. Mention that Jesus wants people to tell others about Him. As preschoolers trace the lines, discuss different places they can tell others about God's love.
- Gather preschoolers around the taped lines on the floor. Choose a preschooler to stand at the beginning of each line. Say: "Today's Key Verse reminds us that Jesus wants us to 'go and help others.' Let's pretend like each of the lines on the floor is a different road the disciples might have traveled to tell people about Jesus." Invite preschoolers to follow the lines to the end of their road and open the Bible to the marker. As a group, say today's Key Verse together after each group of preschoolers opens the Bibles.
- Repeat activity so TeamKIDS can travel each road and open the Bibles to Luke 10:37.

### MAKE PUPPETS

*Provide: Paper lunch bags; googly eyes; glue; crayons or markers; yarn; scissors*

- Distribute a paper bag to each child. Assist preschoolers in creating a face on the bottom of the sack. Decorate with crayons, markers, yarn, googly eyes, and so on. Encourage preschoolers to be as creative as they would like, adding hair, clothes, or other accessories.
- Demonstrate how to insert your hand in the paper bag and make the puppet "talk." Mention that Jesus wants people to tell others about Him. Guide preschoolers to use their puppets to tell things they know about Jesus. Encourage them to use past Points or other Bible truths they know about Jesus. In addition, practice saying the names of the Gospel books in order with puppets: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.
- Review today's Bible story with preschoolers, reminding them that Jesus sent the disciples and others out to tell people about Him. Share that today, God asks us to do the same thing. We can tell people about Jesus everywhere we go.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

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*Provide: Tarps or plastic tablecloths. Cue the "Gifts of Hope" missions video.*

- **Say:** "Send Relief is the name of a company made up of Christians who help people all over the world. Jesus said, 'Go and help others.' That is just what Send Relief is doing."

Play the missions video. After the video, invite preschoolers to gather around the tarps. Together, act out the following ways that people might use a tarp: Hold it above their heads for protection from rain or sun. Sit on it. Pretend to eat on it. Cover up with it like a blanket. Hold it up for privacy.

- **Say:** "A tarp like this can help people. Send Relief gives out tarps to people who need them. They don't just help people; they share the good news about Jesus."

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Debrief: Open a Bible to today's verse. Read it aloud. Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### TELL OTHERS RELAY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 36)

- In this relay game, preschoolers will work in teams to travel and collect interlocking blocks to build towers. As boys and girls play, they will be reminded that the disciples and others went out to tell people about Jesus as they traveled.
- Share that Jesus wants people to tell others about Him. Say: "You are never too young or old to tell people the good news of God's love. Just like Jesus sent the disciples and others to tell people about Him, He wants us to do the same today."

### STAY, STAY, GO (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 37)

- TeamKIDs will play a version of the familiar game, "Duck, Duck, Goose" as they review today's Key Verse. While playing the game, preschoolers will learn that sometimes Jesus asks people to "go" and help others, while sometimes He asks people to "stay" right where they are to help others and tell people about Him.
- Say: "Jesus wants people to tell others about Him. He tells people to go to different places to share His love, like He did with His disciples. Sometimes, though, we can stay right where we are and tell people about Jesus." Ask preschoolers to name people they can tell about Jesus.

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## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

Ask review questions from the Bible story. Share that Jesus sent His disciples and other people out to heal people and tell them about Him.

- **Say:** “Today, Jesus wants people to tell others about Him. Let’s say Today’s Point together, but
- this time, we will say it differently. We’ll use the word ‘me’ instead of ‘people’ when we say who
- Jesus wants to tell others about Him.” Invite preschoolers to say, **“Jesus wants me to tell others**
- **about Him.”**

### PRAY

Thank God for the chance to come to TeamKID to learn more about Jesus. Ask God to help preschoolers tell others about God’s love.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Parent Connection” (Item 26). Print out and copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Gather preschoolers in a circle.

- **Say:** “Today we have been learning about how the disciples and other people went and told people
- about Jesus. We can tell people about Jesus, too.”

Whisper a simple truth about Jesus to a preschooler. Invite that child to whisper what he heard to the boy or girl beside him. Continue until all preschoolers hear the phrase. Have the last preschooler share the phrase she heard. See if it matches what was originally said. Repeat as time allows. Examples of truths to share include Jesus loves you; Jesus heals sick people; Jesus is God’s Son; and Jesus cares for you.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 15

# THE ONE TO COME

TODAY'S POINT: NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, JESUS LOVES US.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus and John the Baptist  
(Matthew 11:1-14, 25-28; Luke 7:18-30)

### KEY VERSE

Jesus said, "You are My friends." John 15:14

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 26).

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- "Play Dough Mats" (Item 35)
- Play dough
- Heavyweight paper
- Washable markers or crayons
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Play dough tools
- Worship music
- Bookmark

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### FIND BIBLE VERSES

- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Crayons or markers

#### MAKE A BRACELET

- Bible
- Bookmark
- Chenille stems
- Plastic pony beads
- Bowls

### MISSIONS

- "Send Relief Gifts" (Item 36)
- Paper money (from a game or cut from construction paper)

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

#### GIANT MATCHING (P 38)

- Bible
- 12 paper plates
- 6 different-colored markers

#### ONLY JESUS CAN (P 39)

- Heavyweight paper

### CLOSING

- Bible
- Ball
- "Parent Connection" (Item 26)

15

## LEADER DEVOTION

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### OPEN THE BIBLE

Read the following passages: Matthew 11:1-14,25-28; Luke 7:18-30. As you read, marvel at the wonder of Jesus' miracles: the lame walk, the blind see, the deaf hear, the dead are raised.

### STUDY

When I think about people in the Bible who dealt with doubt, the first one to come to mind is Thomas—Doubting Thomas. The disciple who just needed to *see* to believe, to *feel* to believe, to *experience* to believe. In this session's Bible story, we find a different person struggling with doubt.

John the Baptist had a special calling to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus. He even had the opportunity to baptize Jesus. Yet, when he found himself imprisoned, he began to wonder, "Is this really who we have been waiting for or is there someone else to come?"

Have you been there before? You know the truth. You've studied it, taught it, and lived it out. Yet, you find yourself questioning some aspect of the Bible or your own spiritual journey. How do you deal with doubt? Jesus reminded John the Baptist of the miracles that were taking place, things that only the Son of God could do. You can do the same. Remember the ways God has worked in your life before. Ponder the faithfulness of God in your life. Trust that the same God who showed His power through the miraculous works of His Son on earth is the same God who has promised never to leave your side.

### CONSIDER

- Are you struggling with doubt in any area of your life? Look for truths in God's Word that speak to these areas.

- Reflect on ways God has been faithful to you throughout your life.

### PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Ask God to help you obey the words Jesus told Thomas in John 20:27, "Don't be faithless, but believe." Pray for faith in an area you might be experiencing doubt.
- Thank God for His faithfulness and love, even when you experience doubt.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Play Dough Mats” (Item 35); heavyweight paper; play dough; play dough tools; worship music. Print and copy “Play Dough Mats” (1 per child).*

Welcome boys and girls to TeamKID. Display a “Play Dough Mat.” Point to the J. Ask preschoolers to identify the letter.

- **Say:** “You are correct! This is a J. J is the first letter of the name Jesus. Today we will learn that Jesus loves us no matter what happens.”

Distribute play dough mats and play dough. Invite preschoolers to use the play dough mat to make the letters of Jesus’ name. Play worship music as preschoolers create with the play dough. Discuss what boys and girls have learned about Jesus throughout TeamKID this year. Remind preschoolers that as they study God’s Word, they can learn many amazing things about Jesus.

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); bookmark. Mark your Bible at Luke 7:20.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Share the following:

- **Say:** If you can you name the two main parts of the Bible, hold up two fingers. (Call on someone to answer or let the group answer together.) (the Old Testament and the New Testament)
- **Say:** The stories in the Old Testament happened before Jesus was born. The stories in the New Testament happened when Jesus lived on earth and after He returned to heaven.

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

15

## JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST

### BASED ON MATTHEW 11:1-14,25-28; LUKE 7:18-30

.....

Choose a child to open your Bible to the Bible marker.

- John the Baptist was a man who loved God. He had a very important job to do. He
- was to prepare people for the coming of Jesus—to help them know He was coming.
- Even when others didn't believe what he said, John the Baptist knew Jesus was
- God's Son. He knew Jesus was the One God promised to send.
- Not everyone liked John. He was put in prison for what he was telling others about
- Jesus. As John's friends came and told him about all the things Jesus was doing,
- John began to doubt.

Ask preschoolers to share what they think "doubt" means.

- When we doubt something, we wonder if it is really true. John the Baptist knew
- who Jesus was. Jesus was his cousin! John had seen Jesus. John had even
- baptized Jesus. But, while he was in prison, he began to wonder, "Is this man
- really God's Son—the One we have been waiting for?" John had two of his friends
- go to Jesus to find out the truth.

Read Luke 7:20,22.

- "When the men reached him, they said, 'John the Baptist sent us to ask you, "Are
- you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"' He replied to
- them, 'Go and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive
- their sight, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead
- are raised, and the poor are told the good news.'" Jesus made all of these people
- well. He did things no one else could do.
- Jesus loved John the Baptist. Even when John doubted and wondered if Jesus
- was really the One God sent, Jesus responded with kindness and care. He told the
- crowds that John the Baptist was a great man, and that he was chosen to prepare
- the way for Him. Jesus wanted John to know that Jesus was God's Son. Jesus told
- the friends to tell John about all of the miracles that were happening. Jesus could
- do things no one else could do, and He wanted John the Baptist to know about all
- of them. Jesus wanted John to really know that Jesus was God's Son.

## GOING DEEPER

When John the Baptist was in prison, he couldn't see Jesus. He couldn't see the miracles Jesus was doing in person. This might have been why he was wondering if Jesus really was the One God had promised to send. Jesus was not angry with John for doubting. He sent John's friends back to John to tell many of the great things He was doing.

- **Ask:** Can we see Jesus? (No!) You are right! We cannot actually see Jesus today. How can we know Jesus is God's Son? (The Bible tells us.)

- **Say:** Even though we cannot see Jesus, we can hear about the great things He did as we study the Bible. Even if there are times we doubt, we can return to God's true Word as a reminder that Jesus truly is God's Son. No matter what happens, Jesus loves us.

Ask preschoolers to name one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can share with a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to a TeamKID who wants to share when it is her turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ask the following questions:

- Where was John the Baptist in this story? (in prison)
- What did John want his friends to ask Jesus? (Is Jesus the One God promised to send?)
- Jesus told John's friends to tell him about the miracles Jesus was doing. What were some of these miracles? (blind see, lame walk, lepers healed, deaf hear, dead raised, poor hear the good news)

## CONNECT: MATCH THE MIRACLE

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); washable markers or crayons*

Distribute Activity Books and markers or crayons. Ask kids to turn to page 34.

Remind kids that even John the Baptist, a friend and follower of Jesus, sometimes needed help believing that Jesus truly is the Son of God. Jesus told John's friends to remind John of the miracles only Jesus could do.

Direct kids to match the before and after pictures of some of Jesus' miracles.

## PRAY

Lead children in prayer. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Thank God for the true stories in the Bible that help each of us know that Jesus is God's Son. Thank God for sending Jesus to be the Savior of the world.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### FIND BIBLE VERSES

*Provide: Bibles; Activity Books (1 per preschooler); crayons or markers*

- Invite preschoolers to open their Activity Books to the activity on page 33. Guide preschoolers to connect the dots to complete the Bible and trace the reference.
- Say: “Your house, apartment, or wherever you live, has an address. There is a number and a street where your house can be found. It also includes a city and state. This is how people know where you live and how mail is delivered to you.”
- Say: “Each Bible verse has a way it can be found. Each has a book name, a chapter number, and a verse number.” Clap three times as you say, “Book, chapter, verse.” Repeat this a few times. Show preschoolers how to find a verse in the Bible, such as John 15:14. Most preschoolers will not be able to read, but they can gain experience in opening a Bible, seeing where the book name is found, and pointing out chapter and verse numbers.

### MAKE A BRACELET

*Provide: Bible; bookmark; masking tape; chenille stems; plastic pony beads; bowls. Pour beads in bowls and place on a table. Mark Bible at John 15:14.*

**Leader Tip:**  
Closely supervise kids while using beads. These can be a choking hazard.

- Choose a child to open the Bible to the marker. Read John 15:14 aloud. Invite preschoolers to repeat it together: Jesus said, “You are my friends.” Discuss what it means to be a friend. Say: “Jesus wants to be your friend! He calls you His friend in the Bible. You do not ever have to feel alone or worried because Jesus is always with you—and He calls you friend.” Mention that even friends sometimes doubt, like John the Baptist did with Jesus. Jesus showed him He truly was the Son of God. Jesus still loved John, even when he doubted.
- Guide kids to thread beads on a chenille stem in order to make a bracelet. When the stem is full of beads, tape the ends and twist the ends together to form a bracelet. Tell preschoolers that when they wear this bracelet, they can remember that Jesus is their friend.

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## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Send Relief Gifts” (Item 36); paper money (from a game or cut from construction paper). If needed, cut up construction paper to use for play money. Consider reviewing the “Gifts of Hope” missions video from Session 14. Display the pictures of the Send Relief gifts.*

Evenly distribute money pieces to each preschooler. Invite kids to walk around and look at things they might like to pretend to buy. As they shop, explain that these things are used to help people. Ask preschoolers to talk about what they want to buy and why. Collect their money as they “shop.”

- **Say:** “When we give money to missionaries, they can use the money to buy these things and help people around the world. Missionaries also tell people how they can know Jesus.”

As a missions project, encourage preschoolers to bring an offering for an item they might like to buy from the Send Relief gift catalog. ([sendrelief.org/catalog](http://sendrelief.org/catalog)) Let them choose together what to buy and then begin to raise money for it. Be sure to let parents know that you will be collecting an offering.

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Open a Bible to today's verse. Read it aloud. Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### GIANT MATCHING (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 38)

- TeamKIDs will play a giant matching game using paper plates to review today's Key Verse, John 15:14. Preschoolers can work together as they match words and colors to place the Key Verse words in order. TeamKIDs will be reminded that Jesus calls us His friends.
- Say: "John 15:14 tells us that we are friends of Jesus. Jesus loves each and every one of us. When we do things wrong or even ask questions about who He is, He never stops loving us." Ask: "How does it make you feel knowing Jesus calls you His friend?"

### ONLY JESUS CAN (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 39)

- Preschoolers will work in teams to share about miracles of Jesus, just like Jesus told John the Baptist's friends to do to help him believe. As TeamKIDs pass letter cutouts in a line to spell the name Jesus, they can say, "Only Jesus can."
- Say: "When John the Baptist wondered if Jesus was really the Savior, Jesus reminded him of the miracles taking place: the blind see, the deaf hear, the lame walk, and the dead are raised. If we ever doubt who Jesus is, we can look in the Bible and believe that He is God's Son."

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: Bible; ball*

Briefly retell today's Bible story. Invite kids to fill in the blanks when you pause.

- John the Baptist was in \_\_\_\_\_ (prison).
- He sent his friends to ask \_\_\_\_\_ (Jesus) if He was the One sent from God.
- Jesus told his friends to tell him that the blind \_\_\_\_\_ (see), the deaf \_\_\_\_\_ (hear), and the lame \_\_\_\_\_ (walk).
- Jesus wanted John to know He was God's \_\_\_\_\_ (Son).

### PRAY

Thank God for the time together at TeamKID. Invite preschoolers to pray a simple prayer, thanking Him for being their friend.

### DISMISS

*Provide: "Parent Connection" (Item 26). Print out and copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Gather preschoolers in a circle. Open a Bible to John 15:14. Repeat the verse together with TeamKIDs: "Jesus said, 'You are My friends.'"

Roll a ball to a child in the circle. Say: "\_\_\_\_\_ (child's name), Jesus is your friend." Invite the child who receives the ball to roll it to another preschooler in the circle and say, "\_\_\_\_\_ (child's name), Jesus is your friend."

Continue until each child has a turn. If time allows, repeat activity, rolling the ball faster each time.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

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## SESSION 16

# THE LAWGIVER

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS IS GOD'S SON AND LOVES PEOPLE.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Healed on the Sabbath  
(Matthew 12:1-21; Mark 2:23-3:6; Luke 6:1-11)

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 26).

### KEY VERSE

Love God and love others. Luke 10:27

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- Large sheet of paper
- Crayons or markers
- Magazine cutouts of people
- Glue
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Bibles (1 per child if available)
- 2 strips of different-colored paper to use as bookmarks
- Wall calendar
- Beanbag

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### LACE A HEART

- Bible
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- "Heart Lacing Card" (Item 37)
- Heavyweight paper
- Crayons or markers
- Hole punch
- Yarn
- Scissors
- Tape

### ROLL THE CUBE

- 6 Bibles
- Number cube
- Tape
- Copy paper
- Scissors
- Index cards
- Marker

### MISSIONS

- Clear water bottle with dirty water
- Clear water bottle with clean water
- Small cups
- Cue the "How to Send Relief" video.

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

#### WALK THE VERSE (P 40)

- Bible
- Heavyweight paper
- Tape
- Markers
- Music

#### ANY TIME, ANY DAY, ANYWHERE (P 41)

- No supplies needed

### CLOSING

- Beanbag
- "Parent Connection" (Item 26)

16

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read the following Bible passages: Matthew 12:1-21; Mark 2:23-3:6; Luke 6:1-11. Think about the motives behind various people in these passages—Jesus, His disciples, and the Pharisees. What do you learn about each one's character?

## STUDY

Have you ever found yourself in the wrong place at the wrong time? Or, better yet, have you ever found yourself in the right place at just the right time? I can think of different experiences I've had with both, but I have to admit, being in the right place at the right time is much more desirable than the other.

In this session's Bible story, we encounter a man with a shriveled hand in the synagogue on the Sabbath. He was in the right place at the right time. Even though it was the Sabbath, Jesus showed compassion and love for him by healing his hand. The Pharisees were furious with Jesus. The healing was not the problem; the timing of the healing was the issue. After all, the Sabbath was not a day for healing. It was a day for worship. Jesus revealed to them that "the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath" (Luke 6:5).

## CONSIDER

- Jesus posed this question to the Pharisees: "Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath or to do evil, to save a life or to destroy it?" (Luke 6:9). How would you answer this question?
  
- Jesus loves people. He tells us in Luke 10:27 to love God and others. How do you show love to God and others in your own life?

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Spend a few moments praising God for His love for all people, love that isn't limited by time or location.
- As you pray, ask God to help you love Him and others with a renewed passion.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: Large sheet of paper; crayons; magazine cutouts of people; glue. (Note: If your preschoolers are older, you can provide magazines and scissors for kids to cut out pictures of people.) Spread the paper on a table. Print today's Key Verse on the paper: Love God and love others (Luke 10:27).*

Welcome preschoolers to TeamKID. Invite boys and girls to gather around the large paper on the table.

- **Say:** “Today we will learn that **Jesus is God’s Son and loves people**. We will also hear that the Bible tells us to ‘love God and love others.’”

Lead preschoolers either to draw people or glue magazine cutouts of people on the paper. Create a large mural with different people.

Ask preschoolers to name some of the differences they see in the pictures of people. Remind TeamKIDs of the verse on the paper. Mention that Jesus showed us how to love others when He was on earth.

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: JESUS HEALED ON THE SABBATH (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); 2 strips of different-colored paper to use as bookmarks; wall calendar; beanbag. Mark your Bible at Matthew 12:1 and Luke 6:6.*

- **Say:** There are two words we need to learn before we hear our Bible story today. The first word is Sabbath. Does anyone know what that word means? (Allow time for responses.) The Sabbath is a day that is set aside for people to worship. On the Sabbath, the Jewish people were not to do anything but worship God.
- The second word is Pharisee. The Pharisees were religious (church) leaders who were very strict about keeping the laws. Many of them did not like Jesus and wanted to find ways to get Him in trouble.

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

## **JESUS HEALED ON THE SABBATH**

### **BASED ON MATTHEW 12:1-21; MARK 2:23-3:6; LUKE 6:1-11**

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Choose a child to open your Bible to the first marker. Read Matthew 12:1-2.

• “At that time Jesus passed through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick and eat some heads of grain. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, ‘See, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath.’”

• Jesus and His disciples were walking through a grainfield on the Sabbath. This was a special day that was set aside for rest and worship. When the Pharisees saw the disciples picking and eating grain from the field, they said the disciples were being disobedient.

• Jesus responded to the leaders by saying that other people in the past had done things like this. He told the Pharisees that “the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.” That means that Jesus Himself is ruler over the holy day, and His disciples could pick grain and eat it on that day.

Choose another child to open your Bible to the second marker. Read Luke 6:6.

• “On another Sabbath he entered the synagogue (church) and was teaching. A man was there whose right hand was shriveled.” His hand would not work.

• The same religious leaders who told Jesus His disciples were disobeying the law by picking and eating grain on the Sabbath were there this day, too. They watched closely to see if Jesus would heal the man with the shriveled hand. Jesus knew what they were thinking. He told the man with the shriveled hand to stand up and stretch out his hand.

Read Luke 6:9.

• “Then Jesus said to them, ‘I ask you: Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?’”

• What do you think? Should Jesus have healed the man even though it was the Sabbath? Of course Jesus healed the man’s hand! Jesus knew healing someone and doing good was not breaking the law, even if it was the Sabbath. Jesus showed He is God’s Son and that He loved people by healing the man’s hand.

## GOING DEEPER

Display a calendar. Ask preschoolers to name the days of the week as you point to them on the calendar.

- **Say:** The Pharisees were angry because the disciples picked and ate grain on the Sabbath, which was supposed to be a day for rest and worship. Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath. Jesus told the Pharisees that doing good on the Sabbath was not breaking the law. Jesus showed love to people no matter when, no matter what. Jesus wants us to do the same as we love God and love others.

- **Point to each day on the calendar and ask:** “Does Jesus want me to show love to others on Sunday?” (Allow preschoolers to respond.) “Does Jesus want me to show love to others on Monday?” (Allow preschoolers to respond.)

Continue with each day of the week, encouraging preschoolers to respond with excitement and enthusiasm.

Ask preschoolers to share one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can tell a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to TeamKIDS who want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ask the following questions:

- What did the disciples do as they walked in the field that made the Pharisees mad? (They picked and ate some of the grain.)
- Why were the Pharisees upset that the disciples picked and ate grain? (It was the Sabbath, a holy day..)
- What was the Sabbath? (It was a day for rest and worship.)
- What did Jesus do for the man with the shriveled hand? (He healed the man.)
- Why were the Pharisees upset with Jesus when He healed the man? (It was the Sabbath.)

## CONNECT: SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

Distribute Activity Books and ask kids to turn to page 36.

Remind preschoolers that Jesus loves people—all people—no matter what shape, size, or color. Jesus loves people! Ask kids to take a look at the sets of pictures on the page. Challenge kids to find the five differences between the two pictures and circle them. Assist as necessary.

Remind TeamKIDS that Jesus wants us to love all people, just as He does.

## PRAY

Lead children in prayer. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Thank God for His Son, Jesus. Thank God that Jesus showed us how to love others. Ask God to help preschoolers show love to God and others, too.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### LACE A HEART

*Provide: Bible; Activity Books (1 per preschooler); “Heart Lacing Card” (Item 37); heavyweight paper (1 copy per child); crayons or markers; hole punch; yarn; scissors; tape. Prepare “Heart Lacing Cards” according to instructions on printable.*

- Invite preschoolers to open their Activity Books to page 35. Open a Bible to Luke 10:27. Read the verse aloud and invite preschoolers to repeat it together: “Love God and love others” (Luke 10:27). Assist boys and girls in completing their activity pages by circling the pictures that show ways they can love others. Discuss what it means to love God and love others while they complete the activity page.
- Distribute a prepared lacing card to each child. Model how to weave the yarn in and out of the holes as you move around the heart. As preschoolers lace, continue to discuss what it means to love God and others. Invite kids to share ways they can show love to God and others. If time allows, preschoolers can color their cards.

### ROLL THE CUBE

*Provide: 6 Bibles; number cube; tape; copy paper; scissors; index cards; marker. Cut 6 strips of paper to use as bookmarks. Number the bookmarks at the top 1–6 and use them to mark each Bible at Luke 10:27. (If possible, use Bibles that look different from each other. Make sure the numbered part of marker is visible.) Print numbers 1–6 on all index cards, 1 card per child.*

- Open a Bible to Luke 10:27. Read the Key Verse aloud. Share that in this activity, kids will practice opening a Bible to a certain verse. Invite the first child to roll the number cube. Assist the child in opening the Bible with the corresponding numbered paper strip and pointing to the verse. Return the bookmark to the Bible. Direct that child to mark off that number on her index card. Invite the next child to roll the cube, open the corresponding numbered Bible, and mark the number off of his card. Continue playing until a child rolls all six different numbers. If preschoolers have already marked off a number they roll, play passes to the next child.
- Remind preschoolers that studying God’s Word is how we learn more about Him and His love for us.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: Clear water bottle with dirty water; clear water bottle with clean water; small cups. Cue the “How to Send Relief” missions video.*

- **Say:** “People around the world need our help and need to know Jesus loves them. As you watch, look for ways you think we could help the people you see.”

After the video, ask preschoolers to name some of the ways they could help. Tell them they could give someone food or clean water.

Distribute the cups and tell preschoolers you will give them each water from one of the bottles. Ask preschoolers which water they would like to drink. Even if they think they want to taste the dirty water, remind them that it will make them sick!

- **Say:** “We can be so thankful that we have clean water. We can thank God for missionaries who give people clean water and tell them that God loves them.”

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Open a Bible to today's verse. Read it aloud.
- Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### WALK THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 40)

- In this game, preschoolers will travel the Key Verse (Luke 10:27) written on papers taped to the floor as music plays. When the music stops, boys and girls respond in various ways based on the paper they are standing on. A TeamKID who lands on the Key Verse reference will open a Bible to the marker and all kids will say the verse together.
- Lead preschoolers to say Luke 10:27—Love God and love others. Remind preschoolers that Jesus showed love to everyone everywhere He went. Say: "Jesus wants us to show love to everyone we meet. No matter where we are or when it is, we should always show love to others."

### ANY TIME, ANY DAY, ANYWHERE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 41)

- To review today's Bible story, TeamKIDs will play a game to remind them that just like Jesus showed love to others any time, no matter what day it was or where they were, they should do the same to those around them.
- In this game, there will be time keepers on the opposite side of the room from the rest of the kids. The game will start by a leader asking the question, "When can I show love to others?" Time keepers will respond by saying a certain day of the week or by saying "any time." Kids will move based on what the time keepers say.
- Say: "Jesus showed love to people everywhere He went. It didn't matter what day of the week it was or the hour of the day. Jesus wants us to do the same today—He wants us to love God and love others everywhere we go, no matter what, where, or when."

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: Beanbag*

- **Say: Jesus is God's Son and loves people.** Today we have been learning that, even though church
- leaders thought Jesus and His disciples were being disobedient, Jesus showed love to people no
- matter what day it was. Jesus knew that doing good, even on the day set aside for worship, was
- always the best choice.

### PRAY

Thank God for the opportunity to learn more about Him at TeamKID. Ask God to help preschoolers show love to others at all times. Encourage boys and girls to pray if they would like.

### DISMISS

*Provide: "Parent Connection" (Item 26). Print out and copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Gather preschoolers in a circle. Repeat Today's Point together: **Jesus is God's Son and loves people.** Toss the beanbag to a preschooler in the circle.

- **Ask:** "How can you show love to others?" (After the child responds, invite him to toss the beanbag to you again. Toss the beanbag to another TeamKID.)
- **Ask:** "How can you show love to God?" (Allow her to answer and toss the beanbag again. Repeat activity as time allows.)

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 17

# THE SOWER

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS HELPS ME KNOW HOW TO FOLLOW GOD'S PLAN.

### BIBLE STORY

The Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15)

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 26).

### KEY VERSE

Jesus grew and became wise. Luke 2:52

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- Index cards
- Markers or crayons
- Basket
- Upbeat music
- 4 clear dishes
- Seeds
- Rocks
- Thorny branches
- Soil
- Beanbag
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### FIND AND OPEN BIBLES

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons
- 6 Bibles marked at Matthew 13

### FIND THE SEEDS

- Bible
- Bookmark
- "Bible Verse Seeds" (Item 38)
- Scissors
- Plastic tub (sensory bin)
- Sensory bin filler (shredded brown paper, dirt, rice, sand)

### MISSIONS

- "Send Relief Helps People" (Item 39)
- Modeling clay
- Poster board

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

#### WHAT DO I NEED TO GROW? (P 42)

- Green paper
- Red paper
- Tape

#### PICK A STICK (P 43)

- Flower pot
- 4 large craft sticks
- Marker

### CLOSING

- 4 plastic hoops
- Beanbag
- "Parent Connection" (Item 26)
- Copy paper

17

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read various accounts of the story of the parable of the sower: Matthew 13:1-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15.

As you read, think about how the seeds were affected by the different types of soil. How do these correlate with God's Word and the condition of your heart?

## STUDY

I wish I had a green thumb. I love to see flowers in bloom, eat fresh vegetables from a garden, and enjoy the beauty of God's creation through trees and other plants. Slowly but surely I am learning how to grow different things, but living in different locations throughout the United States over the years has taught me one important thing: soil matters. We recently lost a tree in our front yard. It turns out, the pH balance in our soil left our tree in unfavorable conditions to thrive. Had we known sooner, we could have made adjustments to our soil and the little tree could have survived. (Yes, testing the pH level of soil is a real thing!)

Just like the condition of soil affects how a plant grows, the condition of your heart affects how God's Word impacts your life. As you prepare to teach TeamKIDS this week, reflect on the status of your heart and how God's Word has transformed your life. Encourage your preschoolers to develop a love of God's Word even at a young age. It's never too early to learn to study God's Word.

## CONSIDER

- How is the condition of your heart? Are you producing good fruit as you study God's Word or is your heart in need of a little pruning?
  
- What are you actively doing to cultivate your heart so it can receive God's Word and produce spiritual fruit?

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Thank God that His Word is living and effective (Hebrews 4:12), God-breathed and useful (2 Timothy 3:16), a lamp for your feet (Psalm 119:105), and source of hope (Psalm 130:5).
- Ask God to deepen your understanding of Him and His plans for you as you study His Word. Ask God to help your heart readily receive His life-giving words of encouragement, correction, and instruction.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: Index cards; marker; basket; upbeat music. Print the following on index cards, 1 per card: hop, march, twirl, zoom, baby steps, freestyle. Place cards in a basket.*

Welcome boys and girls to TeamKID.

- **Say:** “I am so glad you are here today! Let’s begin with a game where you will need to listen and follow the plan closely.”

Choose one child to pick a card from the basket. Read the action word on the card. Start the music. Invite preschoolers to move around the room to the music using the motion on the card. Stop the music. Direct everyone to freeze (stop). Choose a child to pick another card from the basket. Repeat activity as time allows.

- **Say:** “You did a great job following the game plan. Today, we will hear a story from the Bible about how we can know how to follow God’s plans for our lives.”

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); 4 clear dishes; seeds; rocks; thorny branches; soil; beanbag. Mark your Bible at Matthew 13:3. Place rocks in one dish, branches in one dish, and soil in another dish.*

- **Say:** Jesus taught many people while He lived on earth. When He spoke, He often used stories called parables. A parable is a story Jesus told to help people understand more about God. Let’s listen as we read about one of the parables Jesus told the people.
- **Continue:** We’ll hear today about a parable Jesus once told about a sower (farmer or gardener) who went out to sow. Sow is another word for “plant.” But, Jesus wasn’t talking about seeds when He told this story. He was talking about God’s Word.

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

### BASED ON MATTHEW 13:1-23; MARK 4:1-20; LUKE 8:4-15

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Choose a child to open your Bible to the marker. Read Matthew 13:3-8.

• “Then he told them many things in parables, saying, ‘Consider the sower who went out to sow. As he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured (ate) them. Other seed fell on rocky ground where it didn’t have much soil, and it grew up quickly since the soil wasn’t deep. But when the sun came up, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it. Still other seed fell on good ground and produced fruit.’”

• When Jesus was finished, the disciples asked Jesus to explain what He had said. They did not understand what Jesus was teaching.

• Jesus explained the parable to them. He told them that there was a sower (farmer or gardener) who went out to sow (plant). Remember, Jesus wasn’t talking about seeds, though, when He used this parable. He was talking about God’s Word. When people hear God’s Word, there are different ways they can respond.

Spread seeds in a dish.

• Like the seeds that fall on the path and get eaten by birds, people who hear God’s Word but don’t do anything with what they hear will quickly lose it.

Spread seeds in a dish filled with rocks.

• Like the seeds that fall among rocks and don’t grow in the soil, so it is with people who hear God’s Word but don’t study it or use it to help them. When hard times come, the Word of God seems less important or these people forget about God.

Spread seeds in a dish filled with thorny branches.

• Like seeds planted among thorns that have too hard of a time growing, so it is with people who hear God’s Word but are too filled with worry and trying to do things on their own. God’s Word doesn’t stay with them and they just give up.

Spread seeds in a dish filled with soil.

• Finally, Jesus mentioned that some seeds fall on good soil, and they produce fruitful plants. When people hear God’s Word, understand it, and do what it says, they are able to do good things and are rewarded.

## GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** “It is important for us to listen to God’s Word. Jesus helps us know how to follow God’s plan.
- One way we can know God’s plan is to read and hear God’s Word. If we listen, learn, and obey God’s
- Word, we will be following God’s plan.”

Lead preschoolers to sing the following to the tune of Mary Had a Little Lamb:

Jesus helps me follow God,  
follow God, follow God.  
Jesus helps me follow God,  
His plans are right for me.

Ask preschoolers to share one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can tell a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to TeamKIDS who want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

There were four different places the seeds fell in our story. Ask preschoolers to name each different type of soil. Then, lead them to give a thumbs-up or a thumbs-down if it was a good place or a bad place for the seeds to fall. Hold up each dish with seeds as you review.

Call out the following questions:

- On the path: bad place (birds ate the seeds)
- In rocky ground: bad place (seeds didn’t grow)
- Among thorns: bad place (seeds that had a hard time growing)
- On good soil: good place (seeds produced good fruit)

## CONNECT: PUT THE PICTURES IN ORDER

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

Help preschoolers understand that today’s story can teach us to use what we are learning from the Bible to help us know how to live. If we just hear it and do nothing with it, it will be like the seed that didn’t have good soil to make it grow.

Share today’s Key Verse, “Jesus grew and became wise.” Explain that just like we grow from a baby into a grown-up, Jesus did the same. He also grew in wisdom, and we can be like Him as we learn from the Bible.

Distribute Activity Books and markers or crayons. Ask kids to open their books to page 38.

Direct kids to put the pictures in order by drawing a line from the youngest person to number 1 all the way to the oldest person to number 4. (Assist as needed.)

## PRAY

Lead children in prayer. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Ask God to help preschoolers listen and learn as they study God’s Word together. Thank God for Jesus, who helps us follow God’s plan.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### FIND AND OPEN BIBLES

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons; 6 Bibles marked at Matthew 13. Hide 6 Bibles in your room.*

- Invite preschoolers to open their Activity Books to page 37. Search for the hidden Bibles in the picture. Remind preschoolers that the Bible is God’s true Word.
- Lead preschoolers to look for six hidden Bibles around the room. Direct boys and girls to open the Bibles to the markers.
- Say: “The Bible parable (story) of the sower and the seed is found in three different places in the Bible. First, this story is found in the book of Matthew, chapter 13.”
- Assist preschoolers in finding Mark 4. Place the markers in the Bibles and direct a few preschoolers to hide the Bibles. Lead other kids to find them and open to Mark 4. Repeat activity one more time, marking the Bibles at Luke 8.
- Review today’s Bible story together. Say: “God wants His Word to fall on good soil. That means He wants people to listen to it, learn from it, understand it, and follow what it says.”

### FIND THE SEEDS

*Provide: Bible; bookmark; “Bible Verse Seeds” (Item 38); scissors; plastic tub (sensory bin); sensory bin filler (shredded brown paper, dirt, rice, or sand). Copy and cut out “Bible Verse Seeds.” Hide seeds in sensory bin.*

- Open the Bible and read Luke 2:52 aloud. Say: “Just like we grow and learn, Jesus grew and learned when He was on earth. Our Bible story today tells a parable (story) about how seeds need the right soil to grow into a plant that produces fruit. What are some things we need to have in order to grow and be healthy?” (Allow time for responses.)
- Mention that in order to grow to be more like Jesus, we need to spend time reading the Bible and following what it says. Invite preschoolers to look in the sensory bin and find the paper seeds. Assist them in putting the seeds in order from smallest to largest. Read the verse to preschoolers when done. Remind them that just like Jesus grew and became wise, He wants us to do the same as we read and study God’s Word.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Send Relief Helps People” (Item 39); modeling clay; poster board. Draw rows on the poster board to look like garden rows. Consider reviewing the “How to Send Relief” video. Invite preschoolers to listen and look at the photos as you read the captions aloud.*

- **Say:** “Send Relief is helping many people with the things they need. Some of the people who get help hear about Jesus for the very first time. Missionaries who work with Send Relief teach people how to follow Jesus.”

Invite kids to make vegetables out of the clay and add it to the garden rows on the poster board. After they plant the garden, say a prayer thanking God for missionaries who help provide food for people who are hungry.

- **Say:** “We are following God’s plan when we pray for missionaries. He wants the whole world to hear about Him.”

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Open a Bible to today's verse. Read it aloud.
- Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### WHAT DO I NEED TO GROW? (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 42)

- In this game, TeamKIDs will determine if a certain thing will help them grow physically (big and strong), spiritually (to be more like Jesus), or neither. Preschoolers will be reminded that Jesus grew and became wise, and they, too, can grow and become wise by making good choices and learning to follow God's plans for them.
- Say: "Just like plants need certain things to grow, we need certain things to grow, too." Read Luke 2:52 aloud. Continue: "The Bible tells us that Jesus grew and became wise. We can grow big and strong, and we can also grow to be more like Jesus as we follow God's plans for us."

### PICK A STICK (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 43)

- In this game, TeamKIDs will form four teams and try to reach the other side of the room first. As they play, teams will review different types of ground that seeds can fall on and what happens in each. Teams will try to choose good soil in order to advance across the room.
- Say: "**Jesus helps me know how to follow God's plan.** How does He do this? One way is through the Bible. Like a seed that falls on good soil, when we hear God's Word and follow what it says, we can grow to be more like Jesus."

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

- **Say:** “Today we heard a parable (story) about a sower who planted seeds. Some fell on good soil
- and grew into fruitful plants. Others fell on bad soil and they did not grow.” Remind preschoolers
- that when we hear God’s Word, we can respond (or choose) in different ways, like the seeds did in
- the different types of soil.

### PRAY

Ask God to help preschoolers have hearts that want to hear and understand God’s Word so they can grow to be more like Jesus as they follow God’s plans.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Parent Connection” (Item 26); copy paper; 4 plastic hoops; beanbag. Label 4 pieces of the copy paper with one of the following on each: Good Soil; Rocky Soil; Along the Path; Among Thorns. Place the plastic hoops on the floor in a two-by-two grid with the sides touching. Place one paper in each hoop. Print out and copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Form a line behind the plastic hoops. Point out each hoop on the floor. Ask preschoolers to describe what happens when a seed lands in each place.

Share that the parable of the sower helps teach us a lesson about the importance of having a heart and mind that wants to learn and grow from God’s Word.

Invite a preschooler to try to toss the beanbag into the plastic hoop labeled “Good Soil.” The group gets a point for each beanbag tossed into the correct hoop. Work together to see how many points your TeamKIDs can get in each round.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## SESSION 18

# THE SON OF GOD

**TODAY'S POINT: JESUS IS GOD'S SON. HE CAN DO THINGS NO ONE ELSE CAN DO.**

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Fed Five Thousand and Walked on Water (Matthew 14:13-33; Mark 6:30-52; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-59)

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 26).

### KEY VERSE

Jesus is God's Son. John 20:31

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Large bowl of water
- Objects that will float or sink
- Copy paper
- Paper towels
- "Fish Cutouts" (Item 40)
- 5 loaves of bread (pictures, pretend, or real)
- Bookmarks
- Beanbag
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### GOSPEL HOOPS

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons
- 4 plastic hoops

#### KEY VERSE FISHING

- Bible
- "Fish Cutouts" (Item 40)
- Heavyweight paper
- Scissors
- Paper clips
- Dowel rod
- String
- Magnet
- Bookmark

### MISSIONS

- "Haun Family Photos" (Item 41)
- Collection of dolls or stuffed animals

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

### GOSPEL CORNERS (P 44)

- Bible
- Paper (4 different colors)
- Tape
- Marker
- Scissors
- Bag

### BIBLE MUSICAL CHAIRS (P 45)

- Bible
- Chairs (1 per child)
- Upbeat music
- Blue plastic tablecloth or sheet

### CLOSING

- "Parent Connection" (Item 26)

# LEADER DEVOTION

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## OPEN THE BIBLE

Choose two of the following passages to read: Matthew 14:13-33; Mark 6:30-52; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-59. Can you relate to the disciples in either story? If so, how?

## STUDY

I once was at a small wedding of a family member, and the food did not show up on time. The groom's mother said, "Well, I've got hot dogs, but not enough to feed this crowd." At that moment, I thought back to two of the miracles of Jesus—turning water to wine and feeding the five thousand. I whispered to my dad (who is a pastor), "Think we could call on Jesus to make those hot dogs turn into something tastier and feed this crowd?" We can laugh about it today because the food did finally show up (though hours late), and the wedding was a beautiful time of celebration with family and friends. Everyone left well fed, and I'm sure there were even leftovers.

Over the past eight sessions of this unit, we have looked at many miracles of Jesus. He has healed the sick, raised the dead, calmed the sea, and made the lame walk. In this week's session, we will explore two more miracles—Jesus feeding the five thousand and Jesus' walking on water. These miracles continue to show God's power over creation and His power to do the impossible. It's also interesting to note that, other than Jesus' resurrection, the feeding of the five thousand is the only miracle of Jesus recorded in all four Gospel books.

## CONSIDER

- How has Jesus shown you that He can do things no one else can do?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Read and reflect on John 20:30-31. What do you learn about Jesus in these verses?

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

- In Unit 2, we have explored different aspects of Jesus' character: Healer, Creator, Forgiver, Compassionate One, Sender, the One to Come, Lawgiver, Sower, and Son of God. Spend time in worship and prayer for the many ways Jesus has revealed Himself to you as these names suggest, as well as other names of Jesus.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: Large bowl of water; towel; copy paper; objects that float or sink; paper towels. Label 2 pieces of paper: It Floats; It Sinks. Place a bowl of water and objects on the table. Place labeled papers nearby.*

Welcome boys and girls to TeamKID.

- **Say:** “We have two amazing stories to hear in TeamKID today. We will see even more things that show Jesus can do things no one else can do!”

Choose an object. Ask preschoolers to predict (choose or decide) if they think it will float or sink. Place the object carefully in the water. If it floats, place it on the “It Floats!” paper. If it sinks, place it on the “It Sinks!” paper. Repeat with other objects. Ask what preschoolers think would happen if they tried to stand on the water.

- **Say:** “We have talked about many ways Jesus can do things no one else can do. Today, we will hear a true story about how Jesus was able to walk on water.”

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: JESUS FED FIVE THOUSAND AND WALKED ON WATER (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); “Fish Cutouts” (Item 40); 5 loaves of bread (use pretend food, pictures, or actual bread); book markers; beanbag. Mark your Bible at Matthew 14:14 and Mark 6:48.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Share the following:

- **Say:** The Bible is full of stories that tell of things that only Jesus can do. He can do these things because He is God’s Son. Today’s stories are found in all four Gospel books. Let’s say them together: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John.

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

Leader Tip:  
Post an allergy alert if using real food.

## JESUS FED FIVE THOUSAND AND WALKED ON WATER BASED ON MATTHEW 14:13-33; MARK 6:30-52; LUKE 9:10-17; JOHN 6:1-59

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Choose a child to open the Bible to the first marker. Read Matthew 14:14-15.

“When he went ashore, he saw a large crowd, had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When evening came, the disciples approached him and said, ‘This place is deserted, and it is already late. Send the crowds away so that they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves.’”

Jesus took His disciples to a place to get some rest. But, everywhere they went, crowds followed. Everyone wanted to be near Jesus—to hear Him teach and heal their sick. The crowds had listened to Jesus all day. The disciples figured they were hungry, so they told Jesus to send the people away to get food.

Read Matthew 14:16-17.

“‘They don’t need to go away,’ Jesus told them. ‘You give them something to eat.’ ‘But we only have five loaves and two fish here,’ they said to him.”

**Ask:** Can you guess how many people were with Jesus that day? (Allow kids to respond.)

The Bible tells us there were five thousand men, and that didn’t even include the women and children. The disciples found five loaves of bread and two fish in the crowd. (Hold up the fish and bread.) Now, do you think this food here could feed over five thousand people?

Read Matthew 14:19-20.

“Jesus took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them. He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. Everyone ate and was satisfied (full). They picked up 12 baskets full of leftover pieces.” Jesus fed everyone with just five loaves and two fish. There were even leftovers!

Choose a child to open the Bible to the second marker.

That night, Jesus told His disciples to get into a boat and go ahead of him to the other side of the water. Jesus needed time to pray. In the middle of the night, Jesus saw the boat in the sea. The wind was strong, and the disciples were struggling to control the boat.

Read Mark 6:48-51.

“Very early in the morning he came toward them walking on the sea ... . When they saw him walking on the sea ... they all saw him and were terrified (scared). Immediately he spoke with them and said, ‘Don’t be afraid.’ Then he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased.” (stopped blowing)

Jesus walked on water to get to His disciples. That is truly something only Jesus can do!

## GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** “Jesus is God’s Son. He can do things no one else can do. He can feed five thousand people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. He can walk on water and calm the wind.” Mention that even though we can’t see Jesus today, we can learn about the amazing things He did in the Bible.

Ask preschoolers to share one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can tell a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to TeamKIDS who want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Ask these review questions:

- Why were crowds following Jesus and His disciples? (They wanted to hear Jesus teach and see Jesus heal the sick.)
- What food did the disciples find to feed the people? (five loaves of bread and two fish)
- What did Jesus do with the five loaves and two fish? (He blessed them, handed them to the disciples, and over five thousand people were fed from them.)
- How did Jesus get to the disciples in the boat? (He walked on water.)
- What did Jesus tell the disciples when they were scared? (Don’t be afraid.)

## CONNECT: CIRCLE THE PICTURES

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

- **Ask:** “When you go on a really long trip, do you sometimes stop at a restaurant along the road to eat?” (Allow for responses.)

Explain to kids that when Jesus fed five thousand people, He didn’t have a grocery store or a restaurant to stop at on the way.

Distribute the Activity Books and markers or crayons. Ask kids to turn to page 40.

- **Ask:** “What did Jesus use to feed the people?” Direct preschoolers to circle the pictures that show things Jesus used to feed the people. Draw an X over the things Jesus did not use.

## PRAY

Lead children in prayer. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to earth. Thank God for the many things Jesus did that no one else can do.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

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### GOSPEL HOOPS

*Provide: Bible; Activity Books (1 per preschooler); crayons; 4 plastic hoops. Place plastic hoops in a line on the floor.*

- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 39.
- Open a Bible to the book of Matthew. Remind preschoolers that there are four books in the New Testament that tell about Jesus' life when He was on earth. Ask preschoolers to name these books. Point out the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in the Bible and on the activity page.
- Lead preschoolers to color the books and trace the words on the page. Say: "The Bible teaches us that Jesus is God's Son. The Gospel books help us know more about things only Jesus can do."
- Direct preschoolers to practice saying the names of the Gospel books. Form a line behind the first hoop on the floor. Invite preschoolers to jump from hoop to hoop, saying the names "Matthew, Mark, Luke, John" as they jump. Repeat activity as time allows.

### KEY VERSE FISHING

*Provide: Bible; "Fish Cutouts" (Item 40) printed on heavyweight paper; scissors; paper clips; dowel rod; string; magnet; bookmark. Place a marker at John 20:31. Cut apart "Fish Cutouts." Attach a paper clip to each fish. Create a fishing pole by tying one end of the string on the dowel rod and the other end around a magnet. Spread fish around on the floor.*

- Invite a preschooler to open the Bible to the marker. Read John 20:31: "Jesus is God's Son." Repeat the verse together. Ask: "What did Jesus use to feed over five thousand people?" (Allow kids to answer.) Say: "Jesus used only two fish and five loaves of bread to feed all of those people. He truly is God's Son. He can do things no one else can do."
- Direct kids to "catch" fish by trying to get the magnet on the pole to attach to a paper clip on a fish. When all fish are caught, assist preschoolers in putting the fish in Key Verse order. Repeat the verse together. Place the fish back on the floor and catch them again so that each child has a chance to fish for the Key Verse words.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

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*Provide: "Haun Family Photos" (Item 41); collection of dolls or stuffed animals. Invite preschoolers to hold the photos so that their friends can see. Read the captions aloud.*

- **Say:** "Heidi Haun is a surgeon, but she's also a missionary in a country called Ghana. She lives there with her husband, William, and their children. Her medical work is very important, but she knows the most important thing is for people to hear about Jesus. She gets to tell Bible stories and pray with people that she helps at the hospital. William teaches the Bible and tells stories about the work of missionaries around the world."

Invite preschoolers to pretend that the babies or animals are sick and they need to take care of them. Encourage them to be gentle and help them feel better.

- **Say:** "Maybe one day you will be a missionary doctor who helps people know Jesus loves them."

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Open a Bible to today's verse. Read it aloud. Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### GOSPEL CORNERS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 44)

- TeamKIDs will practice saying the names of the four Gospel books as they play a version of "Four Corners." Today's Bible story is found in all four books, so preschoolers will be reminded that as they read Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, they can learn about who Jesus is and what He can do.
- Hold a Bible in front of preschoolers.
- Ask: "What are the four Gospel books?" (Allow kids to respond.)
- Continue: "The Gospels teach us about Jesus and His life on earth. They teach us that **Jesus is God's Son. He can do things no one else can do.**"

### BIBLE MUSICAL CHAIRS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 45)

- In this version of musical chairs, TeamKIDs will pretend they are swimming through water as they move around the circle. When the music stops, the child at the chair with the Bible will open the Bible to the marker and TeamKIDs will say John 20:31 together. Preschoolers will be reminded that Jesus is God's Son and discuss different things only Jesus can do.
- Say: "**Jesus is God's Son. He can do things no one else can do.** In our Bible story today, He walked on water and fed five thousand people with just a few fish and loaves of bread."
- Ask: "What else have we learned that only Jesus can do?"

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: Bible*

Open a Bible to the Book of Matthew.

- **Say:** “The Gospels teach us about who Jesus is and what He can do. We learn that Jesus is God’s
- Son and that He can do things no one else can do.”

Use the review questions from the Bible study as you review the Bible story.

### PRAY

Thank God for the preschoolers at TeamKID and for the opportunity to learn more about Jesus. Thank God for giving us the Bible that teaches us about things only Jesus can do.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Parent Connection” (Item 26). Copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Invite preschoolers to repeat Today’s Point together: **Jesus is God’s Son. He can do things no one else can do.**

- **Say:** “At TeamKID we’ve learned a lot of different things that only Jesus can do. Let’s see what you
- remember!”

Name different things that TeamKIDs can do (write their names, play ball, clean their rooms, go to church, and so on) and things that only Jesus can do (heal sick people, calm storms, forgive sins, walk on water, feed five thousand, and so on). If what you name is something only Jesus can do, invite preschoolers to point to the sky. If it is something they can do, guide preschoolers to point to themselves.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

# BONUS SESSION 1

## WHO IS JESUS?

TODAY'S POINT: THE BIBLE TELLS US ABOUT JESUS, GOD'S SON.

### BIBLE STORY

The Jesus of the Gospels (John 1:1-18; John 20:30-31; Luke 1:1-4; Mark 1:1; Matthew 1:1)

### KEY VERSE

Jesus said, "The Bible tells about Me."  
John 5:39

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 75).

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- Bibles (1 per preschooler)
- "Shape Bible Markers" (Item 76)
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Copy paper
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### SEARCH FOR THE BIBLES

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons
- Several Bibles

### MAKE A MEGAPHONE

- White card stock
- "Megaphone Template" (Item 77)
- Scissors
- Art supplies
- Clear tape
- Stickers (optional)

### MISSIONS

- Dolls
- Blankets or towels
- Cue the "Use Your One Life" video.

### GAMES

#### GRAB THE SHAPE (P 7)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Scrap paper
- Clean trash can

#### WALK AND TELL (P 87)

- Beanbags
- Painter's tape

#### TOSS AND QUOTE (P 88)

- Beanbag
- Poster board
- Marker
- Tape

### CLOSING

- "Parent Connection" (Item 75)
- "Shape Bible Markers" (Item 76)
- Upbeat music

## LEADER DEVOTION

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### OPEN THE BIBLE

Read John 1:1-10; 20:30-31; and Luke 1:4 (John's and Luke's Testimonies) from your Bible or Bible app. Note how the people who heard John's testimony reacted to what they had heard.

### STUDY

I love to read. As a kid you would always find me with my nose in a book. When my parents took my sister and me out on the boat to fish, I would huddle up under the steering well with a book and read. I loved imagining the worlds the people I read about lived in. I loved hearing the voices of each character in my mind. I loved thinking of myself living in the setting described on the pages of whichever book I was reading at the time.

Many words and many books have been written by countless men over the ages. But none compares to the Word of God written in His Book by men He inspired. The Bible has lasted and remained true for thousands of years. Is there any other book that you know of written by so many different men over so many different time spans that has stood the test of time? I can't think of a single one. That in and of itself tells me the Bible is the greatest book ever written.

All the words and all the books of the Bible point to one thing—Jesus. He can be found in the stories and prophecies recorded in the Old Testament, and the New Testament is full of testimonies that point to Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and promise to come again. As you read the lesson for this session, read the Scriptures with fresh eyes. Focus on the details both small and large that are recorded in the Gospels so that we may believe and have life through Him.

### CONSIDER

- Consider John's and Luke's reasons for sharing their testimonies.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Ponder how you share the testimony of the things you have learned about Jesus.

### PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Pray and thank God that His Word is true and steadfast in teaching about His Son, Jesus.
- Ask God to help you tell others the things you have seen and heard so that they too may believe.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

As preschoolers arrive, welcome them to TeamKID. Lead preschoolers to sit in a circle.

Whisper something that is true about Jesus in one child's ear. Consider using Today's Points learned in the previous sessions. The child will then whisper the statement into the next child's ear.

Continue around the circle until the statement reaches the last child. Ask the child to say the statement aloud.

Play several rounds starting at different points in the circle.

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: THE JESUS OF THE GOSPELS (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); "Shape Bible Markers" (Item 76); scissors; copy paper. Print and cut out the Bible markers. Place the triangle marker at John 1:14 in your Bible. Place the square marker at Luke 1:1 in your Bible. Place the rectangle and circle markers nearby.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Share the following information:

- God told many men over many years what to write in the Bible.
- God told prophets like Isaiah and Micah what to write about Jesus coming in the Old Testament.
- God told men like Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John to write about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection in the New Testament. (Help preschoolers understand that resurrection means that Jesus came back to life.)
- **The Bible tells us about Jesus, God's Son.**

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story.

## THE JESUS OF THE GOSPELS

**BASED ON JOHN 1:1-18; JOHN 20:30-31; LUKE 1:1-4; MARK 1:1; MATTHEW 1:1**

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Open your Bible to John 1 and read verses 1 and 2.

- “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was
- God. He was with God in the beginning.” (Explain that the Word refers to Jesus. So this
- verse means Jesus has been with God since the beginning, and He is God.)
- God sent John to tell people about Jesus. John told people that Jesus was coming
- into the world. Although Jesus created everything in the world and John told the
- people Jesus was coming, some of the people did not believe that Jesus is God’s
- Son. But some people did believe Jesus was the One God had promised to send
- and those people were called the children of God.

Invite a child to turn to the triangle Bible marker.

- John continued to tell the people what he knew about Jesus. John said that Jesus
- was the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. (This means Jesus was in
- heaven, but was born as a baby so He could live with people on earth.) John wrote
- about many signs and miracles that Jesus did, so that people might believe Jesus
- is the Son of God.

Invite another child to turn to the square Bible marker.

- Many men have written about Jesus and the things He did. Luke was one of the
- men who wrote about Jesus, too. Luke was a doctor, and he liked to investigate
- (Tell preschoolers that investigating means to learn about or find answers to things you don’t
- understand.) Luke investigated what others said about Jesus and what he witnessed
- about Jesus for himself. Luke wrote down the things he learned and saw so that
- other people would know for sure that the things they heard about Jesus were
- true.

Hold up the rectangle and circle Bible markers.

- Matthew and Mark also wrote about Jesus as God told them to do. God told all
- these men to write down the things they had seen and heard to tell us about His
- Son, Jesus.

## GOING DEEPER

- **Say: The Bible tells us about Jesus, God’s Son.** God told men what to write in the Bible so that we may know about Jesus.

Hold up each one of the “Shape Bible Markers” and have kids say, “The Bible tells me about Jesus.” Then put the marker down and have kids say, “I can tell others what the Bible says about Jesus.”

Pass a Bible around the circle. Guide preschoolers to open the Bible if they want to talk when it is their turn. Encourage preschoolers to say one thing the Bible tells them about Jesus.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Explain that kids will review today’s story by playing a game of “Go and Tell.”

Tell the children to scatter around the room. When you call out a question they will take three steps in any direction, then stop and tell a friend standing close to them the answer.

Call out the following questions:

- How long has Jesus been with God? (since the beginning)
- What did God send John to tell people? (Jesus was coming.)
- What were the people who believed that Jesus is God’s Son called? (children of God)
- Why did John and the other Gospel writers tell about the things Jesus did? (so that people can know about Him)

## CONNECT: WHO IS JESUS?

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

Distribute Activity Books and ask kids to turn to page 78.

Lead kids to circle the pictures that show who the Bible says Jesus is. Discuss the pictures that were chosen.

Encourage preschoolers to trace the word in the phrase below the last picture.

- **Say: “The Bible tells us about Jesus, God’s Son.”**

## PRAY

Lead children to pray thanking God for Jesus and the Bible. Thank God for leading men to write down His words, so that we can learn about Jesus and believe in Him. Ask if any child would like to lead a prayer.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### SEARCH FOR THE BIBLES

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); several Bibles. Hide the Bibles throughout the room.*

- Tell preschoolers that you have hidden Bibles in the room. Explain that the kids will search for the Bibles. When they find one, they are to bring it back to the table or carpet.
- Ask preschoolers what they remember about the Bible. (It's true; written by many men; has two parts; and so forth.)
- Remind the preschoolers that the Bible tells us about God's Son, Jesus.
- Invite preschoolers to open their TeamKID Activity Books to the activity on page 77 and lead the kids to complete the activity.

### MAKE A MEGAPHONE

*Provide: White card stock; "Megaphone Template" (Item 77); scissors; art supplies; clear tape; stickers (optional). Copy and cut out a template for each child.*

- Give each child one of the templates. Invite her to use the art supplies and stickers to decorate the megaphone.
- Help preschoolers fold and tape their megaphones.
- Encourage preschoolers to use their megaphones to tell others what the Bible says about Jesus.

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: Dolls; blankets or towels. Cue the "Use Your One Life" missions video.*

- **Say:** "God wants us to obey Him and tell others about Him. That's one way to live for Jesus. Let's see how missionaries are serving Jesus in Africa."

Play the video. Invite preschoolers to look at the dolls and blankets. Explain that in Africa, people carry babies on their backs wrapped in a blanket. Did they see that in the video?

- **Say:** "One of the missionaries said that holding a baby can be a way to share the love of Jesus. Let's practice carrying a baby on our backs like they do in other countries."

Let preschoolers take turns carrying a baby doll on their backs. Place the dolls on their backs and secure with towels or blankets. Invite the preschoolers to move around the room. Explain that missionaries learn many new things when they go to different countries.

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: GRAB THE SHAPE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 7)

- In this game, preschoolers will retrieve shapes from under a parachute to find the words to this session’s Key Verse or Today’s Point. After all the shapes with words are retrieved, kids will put the Key Verse or Today’s Point in order. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying some Bible words and short phrases.
- Read the Key Verse or Today’s Point. Remind preschoolers that God told men what to write in the Bible and the Bible tells us about Jesus. Ask kids to share what they learned about Jesus today from the Bible.

### WALK AND TELL (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 87)

- In this game, preschoolers will walk a path while balancing a beanbag on their heads. When they reach the end of the path, they will tell a friend one thing the Bible says about Jesus.
- Discuss some of the statements the preschoolers share with one another. Say: “Jesus said, ‘The Bible tells about Me.’ One thing we know the Bible says about Jesus is that He is God’s Son. We should tell others what the Bible says about Jesus just like you did in this game.”

### TOSS AND QUOTE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 88)

- In this game, preschoolers will toss a beanbag onto a poster board divided into sections. Preschoolers will then fill in the missing word or words to complete the Key Verse.
- Read John 5:39 together. Ask the preschoolers who is speaking in the verse. (Jesus) Point out that Jesus said the Bible tells about Him.
- Say: “All of the Bible tells us about Jesus, not just one part. In the Old Testament, we learn about Jesus before He was born. In the New Testament we learn about Jesus’ birth, the things He did, and how He will come again someday.”

## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

*Provide: “Shape Bible Markers” (Item 76) from Bible study*

Ask review questions from the Bible story (used during Bible study time).

Remind preschoolers that the Bible tells us about God’s Son, Jesus. When we read the Gospel books, we can learn about Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection (when He came back to life).

Place the “Shape Bible Markers” where preschoolers can see them. Challenge the preschoolers to work together and place the shapes in order according to the four Gospel books.

Lead preschoolers to say the Gospel books in order. Remind the children that each of the Gospels tells us about Jesus and the things He did.

### PRAY

Lead children to pray and ask God to help them tell others what the Bible says about Jesus. Encourage children to pray, but do not force any child to pray who does not wish to do so.

### DISMISS

*Provide: “Parent Connection” (Item 75); “Shape Bible Markers” (Item 76) from Bible study; upbeat music. Print out a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Direct the kids to sit in a circle. Give four preschoolers one of the “Shape Bible Markers” to hold. (Choose preschoolers not sitting next to each other in the circle.)

Explain that when the music starts they will pass the shapes around the circle. When the music stops, the children holding a shape will name something fun they did at TeamKID or say one thing they remember from the Bible story.

Start the music and stop at different intervals. Play as time allows.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## BONUS SESSION 2

# THE SHEPHERDS WORSHIPED JESUS

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS WAS BORN JUST LIKE GOD PROMISED.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus Was Born (Luke 2)

### KEY VERSE

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Luke 2:11

### PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible story and life application by sharing this session's Parent Connection (Item 75).

## AT A GLANCE

### LARGE GROUP

- "Picture Puzzle" (Item 78)
- Construction paper
- Copy paper
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Bibles (1 per child if available)
- Bookmark
- Wrapped gift with removable lid
- Child-safe nativity set
- Bag
- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons

### BIBLE ACTIVITIES

#### COUNT THE SHEEP

- Activity Books (1 per preschooler)
- Markers or crayons
- Cotton balls
- Number cubes
- Green construction paper

### MAKE AN ORNAMENT

- Bible
- Bookmark
- Clear contact plastic
- Tissue paper squares
- Hole punch
- Scissors
- Large star cookie cutter
- Permanent marker
- Ribbon

### MISSIONS

- "Lottie Moon Photo" (Item 79)
- Coins (enough for each preschooler to have a few)
- Offering plate or collection container

### GAMES

#### DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (P 27)

- Bible
- Copy paper
- Markers
- Basket or box

#### SHEPHERD THE SHEEP (P 89)

- Hula hoops
- Small foam or plastic balls

#### IS THERE ROOM? (P 90)

- Dark-colored heavyweight paper
- Copy paper
- Red and blue marker
- Scissors

### CLOSING

- Bible
- Nativity Scene (from Bible study)
- Star
- Candy Cane
- Small wrapped gift
- "Parent Connection" (Item 75)

## LEADER DEVOTION

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### OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 2:1-20. This is most likely a very familiar story. Ask God to help you read this passage with fresh eyes and an open heart to new things He might have for you.

### STUDY

Christmas is my favorite time of year. I love decorating the tree, looking at lights, wrapping presents, baking cookies, gathering with family, singing Christmas carols, and attending Christmas Eve services. One of the most special things I do each year is put out various nativity sets I have acquired over the years. Many have great sentimental value, but more than that, when I reflect on the story that is represented in these pieces, I am reminded of prophecies fulfilled in the coming of Jesus as a baby.

Jesus was born just like God promised. Micah foretold that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would be born of a virgin woman (Isaiah 7:14). Hosea alluded to the fact that Jesus would also come out of Egypt (Hosea 11:1). Jeremiah was just one prophet who foretold Jesus would be of the lineage of David (Jeremiah 23:5-6). Fulfillment of prophecies doesn't end with the birth of Jesus, however. Jesus is God's Son, sent to earth to save the world. This Christmas season, let's remember more than the decorations and gifts, the lights and baking—let's remember Jesus. He is the One the prophets foretold.

### CONSIDER

- Prophecies of Jesus' birth weren't the only ones fulfilled in the New Testament. What other prophecies did Jesus fulfill while He was on earth?
  
- Luke 2:19 tells us that Mary treasured and meditated on the things that were happening in that moment. When it comes to the Christmas story, what do you treasure and meditate on most?

### PREPARE YOUR HEART

- Praise God for sending His Son, Jesus, to earth. Reflect on what this fulfilled promise means for your life.
- Just like the shepherds worshiped Jesus, spend time worshiping Jesus through song and celebration as you prepare to share this wonderful story with your TeamKIDs.

## LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

### OPENING ACTIVITY (5–10 MINUTES)

*Provide: "Picture Puzzle" (Item 78); copy paper; construction paper; scissors; glue sticks. Copy and cut apart "Picture Puzzle" (1 per child). Keep each puzzle set together.*

Welcome preschoolers to TeamKID. Distribute puzzle pictures and construction paper to each child. Display a completed picture puzzle to use as a reference. Assist preschoolers in placing the puzzle strips in order using the number key at the bottom of each piece. Glue the strips in order on the construction paper.

- **Say:** "Today we will learn about the birth of Jesus. We celebrate His birth at Christmas. The puzzle we put together shows a picture of part of the true story we will hear."

Leader  
Tip: If your TeamKIDs are able to successfully use scissors, they can cut out puzzles on their own.

Direct the preschoolers to move to the Bible study area.

### BIBLE STUDY: JESUS WAS BORN (15–20 MINUTES)

*Provide: Bibles (1 per child if available); bookmark; wrapped gift with removable lid; child-safe nativity set; bag. Mark your Bible at Luke 2. Place the Bible in the gift box.*

Hold up your Bible for preschoolers to see. Share the following:

- The Bible has two main parts. (Hold up two fingers.)
- The Old Testament is in the front of the Bible. (Hold out right palm since kids will be facing you.) It tells us what happened before Jesus was born.
- The New Testament is in the back of the Bible. (Hold out left palm since kids will be facing you.) It tells us what happened when Jesus was on earth and after He returned to heaven.
- Together, they make the Bible. (Clap hands together.)

While many nativity sets include the wise men, please refrain from using these. The story focus today is on Jesus' birth and the shepherds worshipping Jesus.

- **Say:** When you think of Christmas, what comes to your mind? (Allow preschoolers to respond.)
- When I think of Christmas, I often think of presents like this one. (Display the wrapped gift in front of you.) But, when I think about presents at Christmas, I think about the greatest gift we have ever been given.

Invite a preschooler to open the lid of the box. Take out the Bible and display for TeamKIDs to see.

- **Say:** This is the Bible. It is God's gift to us so we can know and understand who He is and what He has done. Our story today is about the greatest gift ever given to us.

Hold your Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

## JESUS WAS BORN BASED ON LUKE 2

.....

BONUS  
2

Choose a child to open your Bible to the marker. Read Luke 2:4-7.

“Joseph went up from the town of Nazareth ... to the city ... which is called Bethlehem ... with Mary, who was engaged to him and was pregnant (going to have a baby). While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. Then she gave birth to her firstborn son, and she wrapped him tightly in cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.”

Joseph and Mary traveled to a place called Bethlehem to be counted in a census. This was a time when they would count all the people who were from that city. Bethlehem was very crowded at the time, so the only place they could find to stay was a stable. While there, Mary gave birth to Jesus.

When you think about a king, where do you think he would be born? (Allow kids to respond.) You probably wouldn't expect a king to be born in a dirty stable where animals lived. But Jesus, the King of the world, was born in a simple stable and laid in a manger.

When you were born, people might have come to visit your parents and you. They wanted to celebrate your birth—after all, you are worth celebrating! Even though Mary's family and friends were not there to celebrate, God sent men to celebrate Jesus' birth—He was definitely worth celebrating.

Read the paraphrase of Luke 2:8-18 below.

Shepherds were in the fields, watching their sheep at night. An angel of the Lord appeared before them and they were afraid. But the angel said to them, “Don't be afraid. I have good news of great joy: Today a Savior was born for you, the Lord. You will find a baby wrapped tightly in cloth and lying in a manger.” At once there were many angels praising God. When the angels had left them and returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let's go straight to Bethlehem and see what has happened.” They hurried off and found Mary, Joseph, and the baby who was lying in the manger. After seeing them, they went and told others, and all who heard it were amazed. The shepherds returned, praising God for all the things they had seen and heard.

When the shepherds went to the fields that night, they weren't expecting to meet Jesus. But, God had other plans for them. He sent angels to tell them the good news—Jesus, His Son, was here! They were the first people to visit Jesus, and they left celebrating what they had seen! After all, Jesus was (and is) definitely worth celebrating!

## GOING DEEPER

- **Say: Jesus was born just like God promised.** In the Old Testament, God told men called prophets
- many things that would happen to Jesus. In the New Testament, these things happened just like the
- prophets said they would.

Lead preschoolers to sing the following words to the tune of “God is so Good”:

Jesus was born  
Jesus was born  
Jesus was born  
Just like God said.

Ask preschoolers to share one thing they learned from the Bible story today that they can tell a family member or friend. Toss a beanbag to TeamKIDs who want to share when it is their turn.

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Place the nativity set figures in a bag. Choose a TeamKID to take a figure out of the bag. Ask preschoolers to identify the person in the story. Discuss who he/she was and what the person did in the story. Specifically review Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, and the shepherds.

## CONNECT: COLOR THE PICTURE

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons*

Distribute Activity Books and ask kids to turn to page 80.

Ask kids to say Today’s Point with you: **Jesus was born just like God promised.**

Invite them to color the picture. Talk about the different people in the picture and point out the way they match the figures in the nativity set you just used.

Suggest they can take their pictures home and place them somewhere special, or they can send it to someone as a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas—the celebration of when Jesus was born!

## PRAY

Lead children in prayer. Encourage kids to pray if they would like. Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to be the Savior of the world.

## BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

### COUNT THE SHEEP

*Provide: Activity Books (1 per preschooler); markers or crayons; cotton balls; number cubes; green construction paper*

- Invite preschoolers to open their Activity Books to page 79. Ask preschoolers to share what they think shepherds do. Mention that they are in charge of taking care of their sheep, making sure they are all there and safe. Assist preschoolers in counting the sheep on the page and circling the correct answer.

- Distribute paper to each child. Share that the paper is the “field” for their sheep and cotton balls are their sheep. Roll a number cube. Say the number on the cube. Guide preschoolers to place that many cotton balls on their papers. Invite each preschooler to roll the cube and add cotton balls to his field. After a few rounds, guide kids to count the sheep in their “fields.” Mention that after Jesus was born, angels announced the news to shepherds in a field. Say: “They immediately went to find Baby Jesus. The shepherds found Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, just like the angels had told them they would. After they saw Jesus, they told others this good news.”

### MAKE AN ORNAMENT

*Provide: Bible; bookmark; contact paper; tissue paper squares; hole punch; scissors; large star cookie cutter; permanent marker; ribbon. Place marker at Luke 2:11 in Bible. Cut contact paper into squares a little larger than the star cookie cutter. (2 per child)*

- Invite kids to make ornaments by placing tissue paper squares on the sticky side of a contact paper square. When covered, carefully place another contact paper square sticky side down on the tissue paper squares. Trace a star on the contact paper and assist the preschooler in cutting it out. Punch a hole in the top and thread ribbon through to make a hanger. Print Jesus was born in Bethlehem on the star.
- Review the Bible story. Choose a preschooler to open the Bible to the marker. Read Luke 2:11. Invite preschoolers to repeat it together. Say: “We celebrate Jesus’ birth at Christmas. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, just like God promised.”

## MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

*Provide: “Lottie Moon Photo” (Item 79); toy coins (enough for each preschooler to have a few); offering plate or collection container. Display the photo of Lottie Moon.*

- **Say:** “Lottie Moon was a missionary to China a long time ago. She loved the people of China, especially the kids. She told them about Jesus. Many churches take up an offering for missionaries that’s named after her—the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions.”

**Leader Tip:**  
Use caution with the coins. If too small, they cause a choking hazard.

If your church participates in a missions offering, explain how your church is collecting money. Show the offering plate and ask preschoolers if they have seen an offering taken up at church. Ask why they think people give their money at church.

Invite kids to pretend to take up an offering. Give each preschooler a few toy coins. Tell them that when the offering plate comes to them, they should put the coins into the plate. Walk to each child and receive their offering. As time permits, redistribute the coins and let them take turns being the one who holds the offering plate.

- **Say:** “We bring our money to church to help do the things God wants us to do. When we give to missions, we help send missionaries all over the world.”

## GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

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Choose from the following games in the *Preschool TeamKID Playbook*.

### UNIT GAME: DON'T TOSS THE VERSE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 27)

- In this game, preschoolers will search and sort through papers to find the words to this session's Key Verse. As they play, TeamKIDs will recite the verse and reference. This game will reinforce the Bible skill of remembering and saying simple Bible words, phrases, and verses with Bible references.
- Open a Bible to today's verse. Read it aloud. Say: "The Bible is God's Word. When we read it, we learn about who Jesus is. It is important for us to hear and study what God's Word says." Ask: "What did you learn about Jesus from today's Key Verse?"

### SHEPHERD THE SHEEP (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 89)

- In this game, TeamKIDs will pretend to be shepherds as they gather their sheep (balls) in their fields (plastic hoops). As preschoolers play, they will review the Bible story and remember that the shepherds were the first people that visited Jesus after He was born.
- Say: "The shepherds were men who spent their time protecting and caring for their sheep. The shepherds were the first people who were told about Jesus' birth. When they found Jesus, they worshiped Him. They told others the good news of Jesus."

### IS THERE ROOM? (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 90)

- In this game, TeamKIDs will review the Bible story as they play a game to help Mary and Joseph find a place to stay in Bethlehem. Preschoolers will be reminded that **Jesus was born just like God promised.**
- Ask: "Why was Jesus born in a stable?" (Allow kids to respond.)
- Say: "Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. The city was very crowded so there were no rooms for them to stay in. Jesus was born in Bethlehem and placed in a manger, just like God promised."



## CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

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### REVIEW

Ask the following review questions:

- Where was Jesus born? (Bethlehem, in a stable)
- Who was Jesus' mother and earthly father? (Mary and Joseph)
- Who visited the shepherds to tell them about Jesus? (an angel)
- What did the shepherds do after the angels left? (They went to find Jesus.)
- What did the shepherds do after they saw Jesus? (They told others and worshiped God.)

### PRAY

Invite a few preschoolers to thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to earth. Thank God for the gift of Jesus, the Savior of the world.

### DISMISS

*Provide: Bible; nativity scene pieces (used in Bible study); star; candy cane; small wrapped gift; "Parent Connection" (Item 75). Copy a Parent Connection for each TeamKID.*

Place the Bible, nativity scene pieces, star, candy cane, and gift in front of preschoolers. Name each object.

Share that the candy cane can remind preschoolers of a shepherd's staff and the gift can represent the greatest gift of all—Jesus.

Lead TeamKIDS to close their eyes as you remove one of the objects. Invite preschoolers to open their eyes and name the missing object. Review how the object relates to the Christmas story when you place it back in front of preschoolers. Repeat activity as time allows, removing different objects or multiple objects at a time.

Give each child his or her personal belongings, Activity Page, and Parent Connection.

## EXTRA TIME? EXTRA FUN!

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For those times when you have a few more minutes to fill, use one of these easy, low-to-no prep activities. While all of these can be “just for fun,” simply add a Key Verse or Today’s Point to the mix to make it a learning experience as well.

### FOLLOW ME!

*Provide: two plastic plates per child*

Give each child two plastic plates.

Play a song. Lead children to clap the backs of their plates together. (Clap them on the beat.)

Tell the children to follow you. Clap the plates together using simple beats. Clap various ways, such as over your head, behind your back, on your knees, and so forth.

For older preschoolers, offer each child a turn to be the leader.

### SAY IT LOUD, SAY IT SOFT

Repeat the session’s Key Verse together as a group a few times.

Offer several ways to say the verse, using instructions such as: “Let me hear you say our Key Verse in a loud voice;” or, “Say the verse so softly that I can’t even hear you!”

Offer other fun ways such as an old man voice, a baby voice, a bear voice, slowly like a turtle, and so on.

Choose children to suggest different, fun ways for the group to repeat the verse.

### BEANBAG BALANCE

*Provide: one bean bag per child*

Give each child a beanbag.

Play music. Lead boys and girls to walk around the space while balancing the beanbag on their heads. Encourage kids to repeat the Key Verse as they march or walk around the room.

For younger preschoolers, lead children to walk with beanbags balancing on their palms.

Suggest children try to do various movements while balancing the beanbags.

### PARACHUTE FUN

*Provide: one large parachute or tablecloth*

Lay a parachute or round table cloth on the floor and guide preschoolers to stand around it. Tell them to pick up and hold the sides of the parachute. Practice moving up and down in a slow rhythm.

Remind kids of the session’s Key Verse. Say it together several times as you move the parachute up and down.

Sing these words (tune: Mary Had a Little Lamb): “Now it’s time to say our verse, say our verse, say our verse, Now it’s time to say our verse, Who can say our verse?”

For added fun, choose two children to run underneath the parachute as the rest of the group says the verse together. Continue until all children have had a turn.

## FIND YOUR MATCH

*Provide: index cards; Print the Key Verse on several cards and cut them in half.*

Print the session's complete Key Verse on several index cards using different-colored markers. Cut each card in half. Mix the pieces and lay facedown in a grid pattern.

Lead kids to gather a few feet away from the grid. Tell pairs of kids to run to the grid. Each child can pick up a piece and bring back to the group.

If the two pieces go together, put the cards aside and ask the two kids to say the Key Verse together. If not, the kids can return them to the grid. Choose another pair of kids run to choose two more pieces.

Continue until all cards are matched.

## MAKE ROOM FOR A FRIEND

*Provide: several plastic hoops*

Lay several plastic hoops around the space. Play music and invite the children to walk around the space between the hoops. (You could tell them to move in other ways.)

Stop the music. Tell kids to move into one of the hoops. Every child should have at least one foot in a hoop. Lead kids to say the Key Verse or Point.

Start the music and move again. Stop and encourage kids to move to a hoop and say the Verse or Point. After the second time, remove one or more of the hoops each time the music stops.

Continue playing, with kids crowding into the fewer and fewer hoops. Encourage kids to make room for friends so that all kids can have at least one foot in a hoop.

## SPOT ON!

*Provide: several pieces of colored paper*

Tape several pieces of colored paper (at least four different colors) on the floor in a large circle configuration. Lead the children to stand around the circle of colored pages.

Play music and lead kids to walk around the circle as the music plays. Stop the music and tell kids to stand on a colored sheet. (If needed, more than one child can stand with one foot on a page.)

Call out one of the colors. Lead kids standing on that color to shout: "Jesus is the Son God promised!" (You can choose another verse or truth to shout.)

Start the music again and move around the circle. Repeat the game several times.





# Get the most from your study.

Customize your Bible study time with a guided experience and additional resources.



TeamKID is a fun, high-energy ministry that encourages preschoolers to know Jesus Christ and to grow in a relationship with Him. That's why TeamKID ends with KID. KID stands for Kids in Discipleship! All parts of TeamKID—Bible stories, Scripture memory, mission activities, life application, and recreation games—connect to teach life lessons to kids.

This study will equip you to guide preschoolers and their families as they pursue Jesus in practical ways through:

- Interactive Bible study as preschoolers discover how to use their Bibles
- Mission experiences that ignite hands-on-learning
- Practical application points of how preschoolers can grow in their spiritual understanding
- Fun Bible activities that build Bible skills and knowledge
- Engaging activity books designed just for preschoolers that reinforce key truths each week
- Family connection pages with key summaries and practical next steps for families

Your TeamKIDs will walk away from this study:

- Excited to learn more about Jesus
- Confident in how to learn about and use their Bibles
- Equipped to grow spiritually in daily life

Lifeway designs trustworthy experiences that fuel ministry. Today, the ministries of Lifeway reach more than 160 countries around the globe. For specific information on Lifeway Kids or TeamKID resources, visit [lifeway.com/teamkid](http://lifeway.com/teamkid).



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### **PRESCHOOL TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS ACTIVITY BOOK**

Activities for 36 sessions + 4 bonus sessions of *TeamKID: Good News* (9781087766829)  
Digital: (9781087767024)

### **TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS MISSIONS DVD**

Mission videos to accompany 36 sessions + 4 bonus sessions of *TeamKID: Good News* (9781087766836)

\*Also available on the DVD-ROM in the Leader Kit or Digital Leader Kit

### **TEAMKID ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDE**

A helpful guide that provides everything needed to begin a TeamKID ministry (9781087777702)