

 Matthew 10:29-31

04/12/2020

Teachers Dig In

Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Matthew 10:29-31
- In This Passage: As Jesus prepares to send out his disciples, he comforts them by saying that God takes care of sparrows and God loves us even more than sparrows. God knows how many hairs are on our heads! God cares about our details because he loves us.
- Bible Point: God cares about our details...
- Application: ...so we care about others.
- Summary Verse: "For the word of the Lord holds true, and we can trust everything he does" (Psalm 33:4).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *God cares about our details.* Most kids know that God cares for them in general, but they may be surprised to hear that God cares about the details of their lives. Help kids take comfort in the fact that no worry or prayer is too small for God. He cares about the details!
- Think About: How do you feel when you think about the fact that God has counted the hairs on your head? What other details of your life does it help to know God cares about?

Dig In to Prayer

- Consider what details you know about kids' lives. Pray for them!

Quick Tip

- You can't possibly know all the details about kids' lives. You certainly can't count the hairs on their heads! But try to remember some of the key details of what kids share with you. If it helps, jot down some notes after class ends. When you can ask kids about personal details of their lives, you'll help demonstrate how God cares about their personal details.

This Lesson at a Glance



OPENING

Preschoolers share about a topic related to the lesson.

Supplies

- Bible



CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY

Preschoolers play a game, sing a song, draw pictures, and talk about the Bible point.

Supplies

- Bible
- several objects from around your church (enough to make at least 10 pairs)
- large box
- paper
- crayons

Easy Prep

- Gather items from around your church that you can estimate the costs of for the “This or That” game. You don’t need to know the exact cost, but choose objects that you can be sure will have a clear difference in price. Only choose objects that preschoolers will be familiar with. For example, you might choose a canned good, a small toy, a large toy, a frying pan, a book, and a box of tissue. Place all the objects in the box, and determine which pairs you might have kids compare. You can use an object more than once in a pair, but you’ll want to make sure that 1 is more valuable than the other. Choose enough objects so you can make at least 10 pairs.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Preschoolers sing a song and thank God.



OBJECT LESSON

Preschoolers look at nature with magnifying glasses.

Supplies

- preschool-friendly magnifying glasses (1 per child)
- assortment of feathers, flowers, and leaves (at least 1 item per child)



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Preschoolers race to build a nest for their bird friends.

Supplies

- long rope
- craft supplies such as yarn, raffia, or shredded paper (6 pieces per child)
- pillows (1 for every 3 kids)
- blankets (1 for every 3 kids)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- Lay the rope on the ground in a big circle in the center of the room.
- Spread out the craft supplies, pillows, and blankets all around the room in plain sight.



PRESCHOOL PUPPET SKIT

Recommended for preschoolers.

Supplies

- Theophilus the FaithRetriever™ Puppet (order [here](#))
- Legos

Easy Prep

- Build a small house with the Legos, but leave out one piece that will be obvious that it's missing. Hide the Lego that would fit there somewhere in your room. Avoid using any green Legos, as Theo doesn't like the color green. Attach the Lego house to Theo's paw.



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Preschoolers play a version of Pin the Tail on the Donkey.

Supplies

- 6-inch lengths of yarn (1 per child)
- scissors
- painter's tape
- poster board (1 for every 5 kids)
- marker
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- Draw a simple circle with a smiley face on each poster board, and tape the poster boards on a wall in the room spaced a few feet apart and at a level where preschoolers can easily reach the tops of the smiley-face heads.
- Create a tape loop for each piece of yarn for attaching the yarn to the poster board.



CRAFT

Preschoolers make heart-shaped bird feeders.

Supplies

- chenille wires (a few per child)
- oat-ring cereal
- disposable plates or bowls
- yarn cut into 6-inch lengths (a few lengths per child)

Easy Prep

- Pour the cereal into the bowls or onto the plates.
- Make a sample craft to show kids.

**Marked supplies can be reused from Core Bible Discovery*

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.



Supplies

- Bible

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Just for fun, have preschoolers stack their hands in a cheer and say, "I love Jesus!"
- Make announcements.
- Introduce new kids.
- Celebrate birthdays by having preschoolers do as many jumping jacks as the birthday child is old. With each jumping jack, they'll say "Happy birthday!"
- Collect the offering.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: **Today we'll find out that God cares about our details. That means God cares about everything from the toenail on your little toe to your friendships with the other kids in this class. He cares about everything that has to do with you because he loves you! Let's talk about the details of something we love.**

Share

- Share three details of one of *your* favorite toys you had as a child, such as the color, size, what it did, or sounds it made.
- In leader-led small groups, have preschoolers share three details about *their* favorite toys.
- After small groups have discussed, have adult or teen helpers share with the whole group what they talked about in their small groups.

Summarize

Open a Bible, and say: **Thanks for sharing all those details about your favorite toys! When you love something or someone, it's usually easier to remember all the details about that person or thing. That's why God cares about the details in our lives. He loves us so much! And when we're friends with God, he shows us how to care about the details of other people's lives, too.**

Pray, thanking God for caring about our details.



Supplies

- Bible
- several objects from around your church (enough to make at least 10 pairs)
- large box
- paper
- crayons

Easy Prep

- Gather items from around your church that you can estimate the costs of for the “This or That” game. You don’t need to know the exact cost, but choose objects that you can be sure will have a clear difference in price. Only choose objects that preschoolers will be familiar with. For example, you might choose a canned good, a small toy, a large toy, a frying pan, a book, and a box of tissue. Place all the objects in the box, and determine which pairs you might have kids compare. You can use an object more than once in a pair, but you’ll want to make sure that 1 is more valuable than the other. Choose enough objects so you can make at least 10 pairs.

Play a “This or That” Game

Say: **Today we’ll find out that God cares about our details. That means God cares about every part of us!** Point around the group at all the kids. **You and you and you and you are all so very important to God! Let’s start today with a fun game to help us think about that.**

In our game, I’ll show you two different things, and you’ll guess which one costs more. Ready? Hold up two different objects from the box, and invite all the kids to guess which one they think costs more. Have a couple of kids explain their choices. Then reveal which one costs more (give an estimated cost).

Continue this same process, making at least 10 pairs that kids can guess.

After the game, place the box out of sight, and then ask: • **Were you ever surprised about which one cost more? Why?**

Say: **Some of the things were much more valuable and important than others—like [give an example from your objects].** For example, you might say that a necklace you’re wearing is much more expensive and valuable than a box of tissues.

Say: **Even though we can tell some things are more valuable and important to us, today we’re learning that God cares about our details. That means he cares about even the small things. God cares about little bugs, and he cares about you. God made everything in the whole world, and he cares about all he made! He cares about your smile and your hands and your feelings and when you get an owie.**

Sing a Song

Say: **Let’s see what the Bible has to say about that.** Read Matthew 10:29 and 31. **Sparrows are birds, but they don’t seem like they’re worth much to us. Even so, God cares about sparrows and makes sure they have what they need! God cares about our details. Let’s see another way God cares about us.**

Read Matthew 10:30. Say: **Since God cares about every single hair on your head, that means he cares about every little part of you!** Ask kids to try to count the hairs on their heads.

Say: **Wow! It’s hard to count all the hairs on our heads, and God cares about every single one! God cares about every part of you! Let’s sing a song about that.**

Lead kids in singing “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes” and touching each part as they sing it.

God cares for your...

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes.

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes.

Eyes and ears and mouth and nose.

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes.

**Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.
Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.
And eyes and ears and mouth and nose.
Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.**

Repeat several times.

Say: **God cares for every part of you! He cares for the outside of your head** (knock on your head) **and for the thoughts inside your head. He cares about what you think about! And God cares that your body parts are healthy—he made every one of them.** Lead kids to touch several body parts, reminding them for each one that God cares for that part and God cares about our details. For example, you might have kids rub their tummies and talk about how God cares that they have something to eat. You might also have kids touch next to their eyes and close them and talk about how God cares that they get good sleep.

Draw Pictures

Say: **God cares about your heart, too! He cares about what you like and what you love! He cares about when you feel sad in your heart and when you feel happy in your heart!**

Give kids paper and crayons. Lead kids to draw something on their papers for each of the following categories, and as you work through each one, have adult or teen helpers lead kids to talk in small groups about what they're drawing.

- Something the child likes.
- Someone the child loves.
- Something that makes the child sad.
- Something that makes the child happy.

Say: God cares for every part of you, *and* he cares for every part of your friend sitting next to you, *and* he cares for every part of your mommy, *and* he even cares for every part of that neighbor you don't get along with all the time. He cares for everyone. So we can care for others no matter who they are. We can be kind and loving when we remember that God cares for every detail.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

[5 min]

Head, Shoulders, Knees, Toes

Sing a Song

Say: Today we learned that God cares about our details. We learned that God cares about every part of us! He cares about the things and people we love, and he cares about our feelings. He even cares about our piggy toes! Let's sing a song to remind us that God cares about all the details that make us.

Lead kids in singing "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes" and touching each part as they sing it.

God cares for your...

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes.

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes.

Eyes and ears and mouth and nose.

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes.

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.

And eyes and ears and mouth and nose.

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes, knees and toes.

Repeat several times.

Pray

Say: **Let's thank God for how well he cares for every detail of our lives—and ask him to help us care for others, too!** Lead kids in a brief prayer.

Say: **Thanks for coming today. Remember this week that God cares for you,** [name of one child]. Repeat "God cares for you, [name of child]," until you've said that to each child. If you have a large group, have small-group leaders say it to their groups of kids. **God cares about every detail of your life! I hope you'll come back next week and share how God cared for the details of your week!**

**Supplies**

- preschool-friendly magnifying glasses (1 per child)
- assortment of feathers, flowers, and leaves (at least 1 item per child)

Look at Objects With Magnifying Glasses

Say: **God cares about our details. That means he cares about every part of us! When we go outside, we can see beautiful things in the world God made.** Hold up a magnifying glass. **A magnifying glass helps us see the little, tiny details like lines, colors, and shapes we might not see when we're just playing outside. Let's use magnifying glasses to take a closer look at these things God made.**

- Lay out an assortment of feathers, flowers, and leaves.
- Give each child a magnifying glass, and have kids use the magnifying glasses to look at the different objects.
- As they look, invite kids to count how many little lines they see or to shout out colors or shapes they notice. Continually ask, "What little details do you see?"
- Give kids time to look at each different type of object.

Look at People With Magnifying Glasses

Say: **When we took a closer look, we found a lot of details in the things God made. God cares about the details, and he cares about our details, too. Now let's use our magnifying glasses to look at the details God gave us!**

- Have kids look at their own hands and fingers through the magnifying glasses. Encourage them to look at their fingernails, the tips of their fingers, the palms of their hands, and the hairs on their arms.
- Have kids pair up and take turns looking for details on a friend's hand, too. Kids can even carefully look at friends' noses, ears, and eyes.

Talk About It

Say: **God made everything in a special way. God cares about our details. He knows and loves everything about us. We don't need magnifying glasses to notice that God made other people in our lives special, too.** Mention something special about each child in your group. **I see these special things about you, and God does, too!** Have kids look through the magnifying glasses one more time as they say, "God cares about our details!"



Build Like a Bird

Supplies

- long rope
- craft supplies such as yarn, raffia, or shredded paper (6 pieces per child)
- pillows (1 for every 3 kids)
- blankets (1 for every 3 kids)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- Lay the rope on the ground in a big circle in the center of the room.
- Spread out the craft supplies, pillows, and blankets all around the room in plain sight.

Tip

- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the downloadable album [here](#).

Build a Nest

Say: **Our Bible story today told us that God cares so much for everything he made in the world. God cares about the birds and knows about all of them, but God cares about us even more. Let's play a game where you'll pretend to be birds and care for each other by helping build a nest that's big enough for everyone to fit in!**

- Point out the rope on the floor, and explain that you've started the nest but it still needs a lot of work.
- Point out the craft supplies around the room that can be used to add to the rope to make the nest stronger. They're a lot like what real birds add to their nests to make them strong.
- Kids can also add pillows and blankets inside the rope circle to make it a cozy, comfy place for everyone to lie down in when the nest is all done.
- At your cue, kids will all run, hop, flap their arms, and chirp like birds as they get the supplies for making the nest and build it as quickly as they can.
- When all the supplies have been added, everyone can lie down in the nest to rest.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.

Talk About It

Ask: • **What did you like about building a nest to share?**

Say: **You did a great job building a nest—and that was one way for you to care for your bird friends here today! I bet we can care for others like that in real life, too.**

Share a few simple examples of how *you* care for others in your life, such as sharing your home so it's a safe place for others, making meals to feed family or friends, or giving hugs and saying encouraging things.

Ask: • **What are ways you care for others, like maybe your friends or family?** Preschoolers might talk about sharing their toys with friends or caring for a baby brother or sister.

Say: **God cares about all the things that matter to us, whether they seem big or small, because God cares about the details. God cares that much about *every person*, so we can care about others, too, no matter who they are.**



Supplies

- Theophilus the FaithRetriever™ Puppet (order [here](#))
- Legos

Easy Prep

- Build a small house with the Legos, but leave out one piece that will be obvious that it's missing. Hide the Lego that would fit there somewhere in your room. Avoid using any green Legos, as Theo doesn't like the color green. Attach the Lego house to Theo's paw.

Tip

- Before printing, turn on page numbering in Word to keep the pages in order (or simply hand-number each page after printing). You may also find it helpful to highlight your part and set the script on a music stand nearby during the skit.

Leader: **It's time for our puppy friend, Theo, to come for a visit. Let's call him to our class with a "woof, woof." Ready?** *(Leads kids to bark until Theo is brought into view.)*

Theo: **Hi, friends!** *(Pants.)* **My back is so itchy today. Would you scratch my back?** *(Circulates among kids so each child can pet him.)*

Leader: **Thanks for giving a friendly welcome to Theo, kids!** *(Looks to Theo.)* **What did you bring with you today, Theo?**

Theo: **I made this special Lego house.** *(Lets kids pass the house around the group, but asks kids to be careful with it.)*

Leader: **Thanks for sharing that with us, Theo! It's really nice.** *(Looks to kids.)* **What do you like best about Theo's Lego house?**

Theo: *(Responds to kids' answers by adding details about how he built it. For example, if they say they like the color, Theo might say he likes the color.)* **Thanks, friends!** *(Looks at his house.)* **Did you notice I didn't put any green in my house?**

Leader: **I see that. Why did you leave out green?**

Theo: **I don't like green. I wanted every detail of my house to be perfect.** *(Looks at his house.)* **But...**

Leader: **It looks pretty good!** *(Points to the place where a Lego is missing.)* **What are you doing here?**

Theo: *(Looks sad.)* **I'm missing a piece. I had every detail perfect, but now one block is missing. I think I might've left it here.** *(Looks to kids.)* **Would you help me find it?** *(Leads kids around the room, looking for the missing piece. Eventually leads kids to the place where they can find it.)* **Here it is! Thank you so much for helping me find it!** *(Hugs each child.)*

Leader: **I'm so glad you found your missing piece!**

Theo: *(Looks excited.)* **I'm so happy. I care about every detail of this house. It's very special to me.**

Leader: **I can tell, Theo! And that reminds me of our Bible point today.**

Theo: ***What's that?***

Leader: **We're learning that God cares about our details. That means God cares about every part of us, and he cares about what we care about—like your Lego house.**

Theo: *(Looks excited.) He does? What other things does he care about? Does he care about my mom? And does he care when I'm sad?* *(Looks to kids and asks them to tell more details God cares about. If kids have trouble thinking of ideas, Theo helps them by asking about details of their lives and whether God cares about them. For example, he might ask whether God cares if they have food to eat, clothes to wear, and a place to sleep.)*

Leader: **God cares about every detail in our lives, Theo.**

Theo: ***Does God care about the details in Pete Poodle's life? He's mean to me.***

Leader: **God cares about Pete Poodle, too. He doesn't want Pete Poodle to be mean, but God loves Pete Poodle just like he loves you.**

Theo: ***Oh. Does he care about Fluffy? He's a bully in my neighborhood.***

Leader: **Even Fluffy. God cares about the details of all the people, puppies, and things he's made. The Bible says he even cares for birds!**

Theo: *(Looks to kids and whispers.) Does that mean I have to care about Pete Poodle and Fluffy?*

Leader: **You don't have to. But when we find out that God will take care of every part of our lives, it helps us care for others, too, because we don't have to worry about the things we need. God will take care of all our details, and we can find ways to help others, too.**

Theo: ***I think I understand. Even if Fluffy is mean to me, I can remember God loves me and will take care of me. I won't be mean back to Fluffy.***

Leader: **Exactly.**

Theo: *(Jumps excitedly.) I have an idea! I'm going to do something nice for Fluffy.*

Leader: **That sounds like a great idea, Theo. We'll let you go do that now.** *(Looks to kids.) Friends, give Theo a big "woof, woof, goodbye."* *(Leads kids to say "woof, woof, goodbye," and then places Theo out of sight.)*



Supplies

- 6-inch lengths of yarn (1 per child)
- scissors
- painter's tape
- poster board (1 for every 5 kids)
- marker
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- Draw a simple circle with a smiley face on each poster board, and tape the poster boards on a wall in the room spaced a few feet apart and at a level where preschoolers can easily reach the tops of the smiley-face heads.
- Create a tape loop for each piece of yarn for attaching the yarn to the poster board.

Tip

- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the downloadable album [here](#).

Pin the Hair on the Head

Say: **We found out from our Bible story today that God cares about all of us so much that he even knows how many hairs are on our heads. I don't even know how many I have on my own head! Let's play a fun game where we'll try to put pieces of hair on a smiley face's head.**

- Form teams of five or fewer, and give each child a piece of yarn.
- Have each team line up single file about 3 feet away from one of the poster boards.
- You and your adult or teen helpers can help each child place a tape loop on one end of his or her piece of yarn.
- Then each team member will take a turn closing his or her eyes while the helper gently spins the child around two or three times.
- Next, the helper will position the child facing the poster board and allow him or her to move toward the board with eyes still closed tightly to try to pin the yarn on the head of the smiley face. No peeking!
- After everyone in a team has had a turn, kids can see how close they all got to placing the hairs in the right place and giggle at the ones that ended up in funny places.
- Then helpers can pull the pieces of yarn from the poster board or wall, give them back to the team members, and play again.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play as many rounds as time allows.

Talk About It

Say: **What a fun game about hairs! Let's see if we can count the hairs on a smiley face's head.** Lead everyone in counting out loud the pieces of yarn on one of the smiley face's heads. **These smiley faces don't have much hair, so it was easy to count. Our heads have too many for us to count but not too many for God. God cares about the details, like how many hairs are on our heads, because God knows us and loves us. God cares about the details, and we can, too, when we care for others and learn about what makes them special.**



CRAFT

Cereal Bird Feeder

[20 min]

Supplies

- chenille wires (a few per child)
- oat-ring cereal
- disposable plates or bowls
- yarn cut into 6-inch lengths (a few lengths per child)

Easy Prep

- Pour the cereal into the bowls or onto the plates.
- Make a sample craft to show kids.



String Cereal

Say: **In our Bible lesson, we learned that God cares about everyone and everything he made—including the birds. God sees each little birdy and makes sure it has food to eat and a nest to sleep in. God cares about our details.** Show preschoolers the sample craft. **Let's make these heart-shaped bird feeders to remember our Bible story.**

- Give each preschooler a chenille wire, and set out the cereal. Let preschoolers know not to eat the cereal because it's for the birds to eat.
- Show preschoolers how to string the cereal rings onto the chenille wire, leaving about an inch empty on both ends.
- While preschoolers work, ask about the coolest bird they've ever seen.

Put Bird Feeders Together

- Show preschoolers how to twist the ends of the wire together to make a circle and then bend one side of the circle to create a heart shape.
- Help each preschooler tie a length of yarn to the heart so he or she can hang the bird feeder from a tree or hook outside.
- Let preschoolers make several bird feeders as time allows.

Say: **God sees every bird in the world, and he cares about each one of them, because God cares about our details. Even though God cares about the birds, the Bible says God cares about *us* way, way more! People are God's most special creation, and he cares for every person on earth! God cares that each of us is healthy, has food to eat and a place to live, and has good friends. God cares about our details.**

