

PreK Day 1

Today's Bible Story

Jesus Calls His Disciples
Luke 5:1-11

Key Question

Who should I follow?

Bottom Line

I will follow Jesus

Basic Truth

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

He said, 'I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life' (John 8:12 NIV).

THIS WEEK



prompting action beyond the experience

- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue Card
- [Parent Cue App](#)



EveryChild Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with learning differences, or disabilities who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional pro-tips for including every child. Check out EveryChild Curriculum - available to all Amazing Life Curriculum Subscribers.

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Story Starter

Engage children's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Worship, Bible Story, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

INTRO

"Hello, friends! My name is *[your name]*. Who wants to go on an adventure with me? (*Listen.*) Just do what I do. Ready?

- Pat each leg alternately to mimic a stepping rhythm.
- When the children have caught on, continue patting while speaking/singing to the rhythm of "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" by Michael Rosen.)

(*Singing or chanting*) "We're going on an adventure."

- Hold your open palm next to your ear to prompt the children to repeat your words.

CHILDREN: "We're going on an adventure."

- Hold binocular hands in front of your eyes, then return to patting your legs.

LEADER: "I wonder what we'll see!"

CHILDREN: "I wonder what we'll see!"

LEADER: "Let's get ready!"

CHILDREN: "Let's get ready!"

LEADER: "Follow me!"

10 MINUTES

Worship

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Engage children's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Worship, Bible Story, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

CHILDREN: "Follow me!"

- Dramatically place flat hands in front of you as if taking really big steps.

LEADER: "Ka-chung, ka-chung."

CHILDREN: "Ka-chung, ka-chung."

- Stop patting your legs and hold binocular hands in front of your eyes.

LEADER: "Oh, look! I see a jungle. A wild jungle with (*clasp hands together like you're holding a vine*) swinging vines.

(*Spoken.*) "Let's swing on the vines!"

- Swing clasped hands from side to side.

(*Singing or chanting*) "Swing-swing, weeee!"

CHILDREN: "Swing-swing, weeee!"

- Return to patting your legs. Then continue in the same pattern with the following verses and actions.

LEADER: (*Singing or chanting*)

"We're going on an adventure.
I wonder what we'll see.
Let's get ready!
Follow me!
Ka-chung, ka-chung.

"Oh, look! It's a rocket ship.
Hold flat hand at an angle.
A super-fast, zooming rocket ship.
(*Spoken.*) Let's zoom on the rocket ship!
Zip-zip, zoom!"

Make a darting motion with flat hand.

"We're going on an adventure.
I wonder what we'll see.
Let's get ready!
Follow me!"

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Story Starter

Engage children's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Worship, Bible Story, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Ka-chung, ka-chung.

"Oh, look! It's a beach.
A beach with splishy, splashy waves.
Move arms up and down like a wave.
(*Spoken.*) Let's splash in the waves!
Splishy-splashy, splishy-splashy!
Move arms up and down like a wave.

"We're going on an adventure.
I wonder what we'll see.
Let's get ready!
Follow me!

"Yay! Thanks for going on an adventure with me. We swung on the vines, zoomed in a rocket ship, and splashed in the waves.

And in today's true story from the Bible, we are going to swim like fish! If you are ready for today's Bible story, I want you to put your hands together and swim like a fish.

→ Clap your hands together and make them "swim."

3-5 Year-Olds

Large Group

Day 1

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Video

Engage children's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Worship, Bible Story, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

BIBLE STORY & SONGS

→ Start the provided video for Day 1.

Help kids count down, worship, and engage with today's message.

GROUPS 1/5

Learn the Motions



Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page
- ☐ Avery® Labels 22830 or equivalent

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ VELCRO® dots
- ☐ Scissors

Note

You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Preschool Getting Started folder and on Pinterest.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child.
2. Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.

During the Activity

1. Teach the Memory Verse motions.
2. Invite the children to do them with you several times.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come stand with me, and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this: 'Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said, (*blink right hand*) "I am the Light (*blink left hand*) of the world (*move hands in sunburst*). Anyone who follows me (*walk in place*) will never (*cross hands*) walk in darkness (*cover eyes*). They will have that (*blink right hand*) light (*blink left hand*). They will have life.'" John 8:12 (*Open hands like a book*)

During the Activity

"Now, let's learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: 'Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*). Tap this finger to your palm. (*Hold up your right middle finger and tap the middle of your left palm.*) Then, tap this finger to your other palm. (*Hold up your left middle finger and tap the middle of your right palm.*) Let's do it again, like this (*tap finger to middle of each palm*), and say: 'Jesus.' (*With children.*) 'Jesus.' (*Tap finger to middle of each palm.*) Great job!

"The next part of our verse says: Spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) Put one finger up to your mouth like this, (*point to mouth*) and say: 'Spoke to the people again.' (*With children.*) 'Spoke to the people again.' (*Point to mouth.*) Wonderful! Now, let's put that together. 'Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again.' (*Point to mouth.*) Great job!

Continue on next the page. ->

GROUPS 1/5

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EveryChild Tips

Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.

Set out the picture cutouts made from the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF for children to hold up or point to as an alternative to saying or repeating the verse out loud.

"The next part of our verse says: 'He said.' (*Blink right hand.*) Put your right hand up and open and close it like this, (*open and shut right hand*) and say: 'He said.' (*With children.*) 'He said.' (*Blink right hand.*) Wonderful! Now, let's put that together. 'Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said (*Blink right hand.*) Great job!"

"The next part of our verse says: 'I am the Light.' (*Blink left hand.*) Put your left hand up and open and close it like this, (*open and shut left hand*) and say: 'I am the Light.' (*With children.*) 'I am the Light.' (*Blink left hand.*) Wonderful! Now, let's put that together. 'Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said, (*blink right hand*) I am the light.' (*Blink left hand.*) Let's keep going!

"The next part of our verse says: 'Of the world.' (*Move hands in sunburst.*) Put your hands up in front of you and sweep them to the sides making a rainbow like this, (*hands up in front of you and sweep out to the side*) and say: 'Of the world.' (*With children.*) 'Of the world.' (*Move hands in sunburst.*) Great!! Now, let's put that together. 'Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said, (*blink right hand*) "I am the light (*blink left hand*) of the world.' (*Move hands in sunburst.*) Super!

"The next part of our verse says: 'Anyone who follows me.' (*Walk in place.*) March in place where you are and say: 'Anyone who follows me.' (*With children.*) 'Anyone who follows me.' (*Walk in place.*) Great!! Now, let's put that together. Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said (*blink right hand*) "I am the light (*blink left hand*) of the world (*move hands in sunburst*). Anyone who follows me (*walk in place*) Great job! We have a little more to go.

"Next our verse says 'will never' (*Cross hands.*) Make and 'x' with your arms in front of you like this, (*make an 'x' with your arms in front of your chest*) and say: 'will never.' (*With children.*) 'will never.' (*Cross hands.*) Now together. Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said (*blink right hand*) "I am the light (*blink left hand*) of the world (*move hands in sunburst*). Anyone who follows me (*walk in place*) will never (*Cross hands.*) You are doing such a good job learning the Memory Verse.

Continue on next the page. ->

GROUPS 1/5

Learn the Motions



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"The next part of our verse says: 'walk in the darkness.' (*Cover eyes*). Put both hands up and place them over your eyes like this, (*cover eyes*) and say: 'walk in the darkness.' (*With children.*) 'walk in the darkness.' (*Cover eyes*). Put it together. Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said (*blink right hand*) "I am the light (*blink left hand*) of the world (*move hands in sunburst*). Anyone who follows me (*walk in place*) will never (*cross hands*) walk in the darkness. (*Cover eyes.*) Let's keep going!

"The next part of our verse says: 'They will have that.' (*Blink right hand.*) Put your right hand up and open and close it like this, (*open and shut right hand*) and say: 'They will have that.' (*With children.*) 'They will have that.' (*Blink right hand.*) Now together. Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said (*blink right hand*) "I am the light (*blink left hand*) of the world (*move hands in sunburst*). Anyone who follows me (*walk in place*) 'will never' (*cross hands*) walk in the darkness (*cover eyes*). They will have that' (*Blink right hand.*) Great job!

"The last part of our verse says: 'light. (*blink left hand*) They will have life.'" Put your left hand up and open and close it like this, (*open and shut left hand*) and say: 'light. (*blink left hand*) They will have life.'" (*With children.*) 'light. (*blink left hand*) They will have life.'" Now we can put it all together! Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said (*blink right hand*) "I am the light (*blink left hand*) of the world (*move hands in sunburst*). Anyone who follows me (*walk in place*) will never (*cross hands*) walk in the darkness (*cover eyes*). They will have that' (*blink right hand*) light. (*blink left hand*) They will have life.'" John 8:12 (*Open hands like a book.*) I have a special sticker for each of you, it has our Memory Verse on it."

After the Activity

"The Bible teaches us that when we follow Jesus, we can shine the light that Jesus gives us so others can know Jesus too.

Who should we follow? Jesus!

Should we follow Him every day? Yes!

Let's say this together: [*Bottom Line*] I will follow Jesus!"

GROUPS 3/5

Ice Fishing!



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Messy trays—one per child
- ☐ Ice cubes
- ☐ String
- ☐ Salt
- ☐ Scissors



EveryChild Tips

Allow children to assist each other or work in pairs

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Cut string into 12-inch lengths, one per child.
2. Lay out a messy tray for each child
3. Right before the activity, add four to six ice cubes to each tray.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to lay their string over the ice. Did they catch anything?
2. Have the children lay their string over the ice again.
3. Sprinkle a little salt over the string and wait about three seconds.
4. Have children lift their strings. Did they catch anything?
→ **NOTE: Too much salt will make the ice melt too fast, and the string won't stick. Wait too long, and the string will fall off again. If you don't wait long enough, the ice cube will fall off when you pick it up. Have fun and experiment!**
5. Repeat as many times as desired.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello, friends! It's great to see you! Come join me at the table, I have a fun experiment for us to try!"

During the Activity

"We're going ice fishing! That's right! Did you know you could fish for ice? **(Pause.)** Lay your string on the ice. Count to ten with me. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten. Pick your string up. **(Pause.)** Did you catch anything? **(Pause.)** No, no ice cubes were caught. Let's try it again. Lay your string over the ice. **(Pause.)** This time, I'll add a little salt over the string. **(Sprinkle a shake or two over the string.)** We'll count again. **(Count.)** Lift your string. **(Pause.)** Did you catch anything this time? **(Pause.)** If you didn't catch an ice cube. Let's try yours again. **(Repeat until everyone catches an ice cube.)** That was amazing!"

Continue on next the page. ->

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 1

GROUPS 3/5

Ice Fishing!



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

After the Activity

"If you think that was amazing, in our story, Jesus went fishing with Peter and they caught so many fish that they filled two boats and those boats almost sank! That's a whole lot of fish, isn't it! Jesus did something that day that only He can do. Jesus helped Peter catch lots and lots and lots of fish! Jesus is amazing! Jesus asked Peter to follow Him. Peter left his boat and the fish and followed Jesus.

Who should we follow? Jesus!

Should we follow Him every day? Yes!

Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!



EveryChild Tips

Allow children to assist each other or work in pairs

SOCIAL 4/5

Boat Adventure

MADE TO
↓
Imagine

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Large cardboard box
- ☐ Ball pit balls
- ☐ Small fishing net
- ☐ Jesus plush or print



EveryChild Tips

Let a child use a fish wand or scoop net if they can't bend or grab easily.

Show a hand-drawn picture of Peter in the boat and then walking with Jesus. This will support transitions and comprehension.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Create a boat using a cardboard box big enough for preschoolers to sit or stand comfortably but short enough for them to climb in and out easily.
2. Scatter ball "fish" around the room.
3. Place the plush Jesus figure near the boat.

During the Activity

1. Invite children to climb into the boat and go on an adventure like Peter.
2. Pretend to fish with their hands
3. Encourage children to scoop up fish.
4. Introduce the plush Jesus figure.
5. Lead children to pretend to leave the boat and walk to the Jesus figure.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Look at this big boat! Do you want to go for a ride on the water? *(Call children up to take turns getting into the boat to fish.)* Let's go fishing like Peter!"

During the Activity

"Can you catch some fish? Let's try to get them into the net or into the boat. *(Pause.)* Wow! You're catching so many fish just like when Jesus helped Peter in our story. Can we catch them all? *(Pause.)* Hooray! We did it! In our story, Jesus said to Peter, 'Follow Me!' And guess what? Peter left everything to go with Jesus. Do you think we should follow Jesus, too? *(Pause for answers.)* Yes! Let's go! (Hold up the plush Jesus. Encourage children to climb out of the boat and walk toward Jesus.

After the Activity

"You did such a great job listening and following directions!"

Who should we follow? Jesus!

Should we follow Him every day? Yes!

Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

GROUPS 2/5

Story Fishing

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Story Fishing" Activity Page, 1 per Small Group
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Paper clips
- ☐ Painter's stick
- ☐ Yarn
- ☐ Clear tape
- ☐ Magnet wand



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Story Fishing" on cardstock and cut one set per Small Group.
2. Attach a paperclip to the back of each picture with clear tape.
3. Cut yarn about one foot long and tie it to the painter's stick.
4. Use the end of the yarn to tie it around the handle of the magnet wand.
5. Place all cards face down on the floor.

During the Activity

1. As you go fishing and collect the pictures, place the story in order.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Come sit at the table with me. We're going to go fishing for our Bible Story today."

During the Activity

"There are pictures from today's Bible Story on the floor. Let's see if we can pick them up with our fishing pole. Then, let's put them in order to retell our story from today."

"Our story begins with Jesus. Jesus was standing by some water, teaching lots and lots of people about God. Can you find the picture of Jesus teaching by the water? **(Pause.)** Good job! Nearby, there was a man named Peter. Peter and his friends were in their boats; they had been fishing. Can you find the picture of Peter and his friends in the boat? **(Pause.)** Great job! Jesus asked Peter if He could get in the boat so He could keep teaching, and Peter said yes! Can you find the picture of Jesus teaching from the boat? **(Pause.)** Super! Then after He was done teaching, Jesus told Peter to put his net in the water to catch some fish. But Peter said, Jesus, we haven't caught ANY fish all night long, but we will do it because you said so. What happened when they did? **(Pause for responses.)**

Continue on next the page. ->

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 1

GROUPS 2/5

Story Fishing

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

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Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ “Story Fishing” Activity Page, 1 per Small group
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Paper clips
- ☐ Painter’s stick
- ☐ Yarn
- ☐ Clear tape
- ☐ Magnet wand



That’s right! Peter caught lots and lots of fish! Can you find the picture of Peter’s net filled with fish? *(Pause.)* Awesome work! Peter knew that day that Jesus was so special! Jesus wanted Peter to follow Him, and what did Peter do? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes! Peter followed Jesus! We can follow Jesus, too!

After the Activity

“The disciples couldn’t catch any fish all night long. When Jesus told them to try again, they caught lots and lots and lots of fish! Peter and the other disciples knew that Jesus is amazing, and they followed Him! We can follow Jesus too!

Who should we follow? Jesus!

Should we follow Him every day? Yes!

Let’s say this together: *[Bottom Line]* I will follow Jesus!

DAY 1 / OPTION 1

Catching Fish

What You Need

- ☐ Foam fish
- ☐ Paper Plates
- ☐ Blue paint
- ☐ Wet Glue
- ☐ Small Paper Plates
- ☐ Paint Brushes
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Yarn
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Write "I will follow Jesus" on the bottom side of a paper plate for each child.
2. Cut yarn into several 1-foot lengths, one per child.
3. Put a glob of paint on a small paper plate and mix in a small amount of wet glue, one for every two children.
4. Write each child's name on their plate.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to paint the top side of their paper plate blue.
2. Collect paint and brushes
3. Scatter foam fish on the table for kids to add to the wet paint. Encourage them to add LOTS of fish!
4. Help kids glue the yarn pieces in a crisscross pattern over the fish to create a net.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page. →

DAY 1 / OPTION 1

Catching Fish

What You Need

- ☐ Foam fish
- ☐ Paper Plates
- ☐ Blue paint
- ☐ Wet Glue
- ☐ Small Paper Plates
- ☐ Paint Brushes
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Yarn
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker



② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello everyone! I have a super cool, super fun thing for us to make today that will help us remember today's Bible Story."

During the Activity

"I have fish! **(hold up some fish)** We need to give them some water to live in. **(Pass out paint and brushes and give instruction)** While you are painting your water, let's talk about what happened in our story. Today our story begins when Jesus was teaching lots of people by a big lake. More and more people came to hear Jesus teach, so Jesus asked to go out on one of the boats by the water. These boats belonged to a man named Peter and his fishermen friends. Jesus went with Peter out on his boat and after He was finished talking with the crowd, Jesus told Peter to let down his nets so they could catch some fish. But Peter and his friends had been out fishing all night and hadn't caught anything. Not one fish! Let's pause right here, and add some fish to our water! **(Place foam fish on the table and encourage kids to fill up their water.)** But Peter did what Jesus said and threw his net into the water because he knew Jesus was special and could do things no one else could. Let's catch these fish with a net! **(Help kids glue the yarn pieces over the fish to create a net.)**

Wow, you guys caught LOTS of fish just like in our story. That's so cool! **(Collect plates and set aside to dry.)** You can take them home and remember how amazing Jesus is and how Jesus did something no one else could. Jesus filled Peter's net with fish! Peter listened and did what Jesus said to do, and then Peter decided to follow Jesus that day."

After the Activity

"Peter knew that Jesus was special and saw Jesus do amazing things. Jesus asked Peter to follow Him, so Peter left his boat and the fish and followed Jesus that day. Peter chose to follow Jesus, and so can we! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus!"

DAY 1 / OPTION 1

Move the Fish

What You Need

- ☐ Plastic bins
- ☐ Foam fish
- ☐ Beach towels
- ☐ Option: Ball pit balls in place of foam fish.
- ☐ Optional: Classroom chairs

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Place the foam fish in two of the bins, cover each with a towel, and set aside.
2. Place the two empty bins about three feet apart in an open area of your space.
3. Divide children into two equal groups and have them sit in a straight, single-file line behind the empty container.
4. Place the two covered fish bins at the end of each line.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children in both lines to pretend they are in a boat and need to row out into the water.
2. Ask children to stop rowing and pretend to throw out their fish nets.
3. Wait for a few minutes, then ask if they caught anything.
4. Pick up the empty bins at the front and show no fish.
5. Let's pull in our nets and row back.
6. Then tell the friends to rotate and face the other direction, so that Jesus is getting on the boat.
7. Pretend to row.
8. Stop and cast your nets.
9. Leader will remove the towels and instruct the two children at the end to take a fish and pass it over their head to the person behind them, repeating this down the line.
10. Continue passing one fish at a time until all the fish are "caught" in the bin at the other end.
11. Once all the fish are caught, you can rotate to face the full bin and play again.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.
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DAY 1 / OPTION 1

Move the Fish

What You Need

- ☐ Plastic bins
- ☐ Foam fish
- ☐ Beach towels
- ☐ Option: Ball pit balls in place of foam fish.
- ☐ Optional: Classroom chairs

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, let's play a fun fishing game! We can pretend to be Peter and the fishermen in today's Bible Story. Come sit in a straight line behind these bins." **(Help divide the children into two teams and get them spaced correctly.)**

During the Activity

"Everybody let's row out into the water like this. **(Demonstrate.)** You can stop rowing. We made it! Now let's fish! Throw out your nets and let's try to catch some fish. **(Pretend to cast your net, then pause.)** Let's see if we caught anything. **(Hold up the two bins at the front.)** No! Not one fish! Pull in your nets, and then we'll row back. **(Pause.)** We made it back to shore! Everybody turn to face the other direction **(move to where they will be facing you when they rotate)** so you can see me. There's Jesus, He wants to get in our boat! Everybody, row your boat! **(Pause.)** We made it! Throw out your nets. **(Pause. Leader will remove the towels from the bins.)** Whoa! So many fish! **[Child's name]** and **[child's name]** pick up a fish and pass it over your head to the friend behind you. When you get a fish, pass it over your head to the friend behind you, all the way to the other end. Ready, set, let's go! **(Pause.)** Pass the fish! Keep passing! **(Pause.)** Yay! We caught so many fish! Our nets are full! **(Hold up the two bins at the back.)** That was a fun game! Thanks for fishing with me today!"

After the Activity

"In our Bible Story today, we learned about Peter. Peter was a fisherman. His job was to catch fish. One time, he had been fishing all night, and he didn't catch any fish! Jesus had been teaching on the beach nearby to a crowd of people, then got into Peter's boat and told Peter to try fishing again. Peter did what Jesus told him to do, and this time Peter caught lots and lots and lots of fish! So many fish that it filled two boats, and the boats almost sank! Wow! That's a lot of fish! Jesus did something that day that only He can do. Jesus helped Peter catch lots and lots and lots of fish! Jesus is amazing! Jesus asked Peter to follow Him. Peter left his boat and the fish and followed Jesus. Jesus asks us to follow Him too! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

DAY 1 / OPTION 2

Follow Fish Catch

What You Need

- ☐ "Follow Fish Catch" Activity Page
- ☐ "Follow Fish" Activity Page
- ☐ White cardstock
- ☐ Colored cardstock in four bright colors
- ☐ Painter's tape
- ☐ Paper lunch bags
- ☐ Butterfly nets
- ☐ Safety cones
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Follow Fish Catch" on white cardstock, one per child.
2. Copy "Follow Fish" on colored cardstock in four bright colors and cut, one set per child.
3. Create a large zig-zag path on the floor with tape.
4. Place a safety cone at each zig-zag in the path.
5. Stick one butterfly net handle in the hole of each cone.
6. In the first net, put all the "I" fish.
7. In the second net, put all the "can" fish.
8. The "follow" fish in the third net, and the "Jesus" fish in the last net.

During the Activity

1. Encourage two friends to travel the path together, stopping at each net to collect one fish each and place them in their paper bag.
2. Continue along the path, then stand near the end to cheer the other friends on.
3. Continue until each child has a turn to make it through the zigzag path.
4. Once everyone has had a turn, sit and examine your "catch."
5. Encourage children to match the fish they caught to the fish on their paper.
6. Ask each child to glue their fish down over the outlines on their paper.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.
-

DAY 1 / OPTION 2

Follow Fish Catch

What You Need

- ☐ “Follow Fish Catch” Activity Page
- ☐ “Follow Fish” Activity Page
- ☐ White cardstock
- ☐ Colored cardstock in four bright colors
- ☐ Painter’s tape
- ☐ Paper lunch bags
- ☐ Butterfly nets
- ☐ Safety cones
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Permanent marker

② What You Say

Before the Activity

Let’s all line up over here! We have a ziggety-ziggaty path to follow today! As we follow, you’ll see nets along the way. When you come to a net, take one fish from the net and place it in your bag. **(Hold up a paper bag.)** We’ll go together in pairs. **(Help group children in pairs.)** Alrighty! I think we’re ready!”

During the Activity

“**[Child’s name and child’s name]** follow the path! **(Pause.)** Stop at the net and collect a fish. **(Pause.)** Great! Keep following the path until you get to the next net. **(Repeat for each net.)** You made it to the end of the path, hooray! Come stand with me and we’ll cheer on our friends. **[Child’s name and child’s name]** your turn! **(Continue until each child has a turn.)** We all made it! Let’s sit down and look at the fish we caught today! **(Pause as children examine their fish. Ask children to turn their fish over if needed so they can see the writing on the fish.)** I have a paper for you that will help put your fish in order. **(Give each child a paper.)** Each of the fish on the big paper has a word on them, just like the fish cutouts. Can you match the fish with the same words? **(Pause.)** Woohoo! You did it! Let’s make it stick, rub some glue on each one. **(Pause.)** Super-duper! You did it. These words say **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus.”

After the Activity

“In our Bible Story today, Peter knew that Jesus was special and saw Jesus do amazing things—like fill Peter’s nets so full of fish that his nets almost broke when he hadn’t been able to catch any fish the night before! Jesus asked Peter to follow Him, so Peter left his boat and the fish and followed Jesus that day. Peter chose to follow Jesus and guess what? Jesus asks us to follow Him too! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!”

DAY 1 / OPTION 1

Water Play

What You Need

- ☐ 2- Large, Shallow Bins
- ☐ Prepared Orbits
- ☐ Plastic Fish
- ☐ Small Boats
- ☐ Small Cups
- ☐ Fish Tank Nets

② What You Do

Before the Activity

1. The day before, soak Orbits in water according to package directions.
2. Divide soaked Orbits between the 2 shallow bins.
3. Add plastic fish, boats, and nets to each bin.
4. Place the bins so the children can gather around them to play.

During the Activity

1. Encourage kids to move boats and fish through the “water” recreating the bible story.
2. Allow time for exploration and imagination!

After the Activity

2. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

“In our Bible Story today, Peter knew that Jesus was special and saw Jesus do amazing things—like fill Peter’s nets so full of fish that his nets almost broke when he hadn’t been able to catch any fish the night before! Jesus asked Peter to follow Him, so Peter left his boat and the fish and followed Jesus that day. Peter chose to follow Jesus and guess what? Jesus asks us to follow Him too! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!”

DAY 1 / OPTION 2

Snack, Missions, & Music

What You Need

☐ Clean tables

② What You Do

1. Gather kids around the tables as the Snack and Missions teams come into the room.
2. Assist the kids as needed to complete the activities.
3. Once snack and Missions is complete, take kids across the hall to the SPLASH room for Music.
4. Once Music is complete, return to your room to wrap up your activities for the day.

DAY 1 / OPTION 3

Casting Nets

What You Need

- ☐ “Casting Nets Jesus” Activity Page
- ☐ “Casting Nets Fish” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Colored cardstock
- ☐ Plastic flyswatters
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Laminate pouches
- ☐ Clear packing tape
- ☐ Optional: Glue stick

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy “Casting Nets Jesus” on cardstock and cut six cutouts per Small Group.
2. Copy “Casting Nets Fish” on colored cardstock, two sets per Small Group
3. Tape a Jesus cutout to one side of the flyswatter.
4. Cover the Jesus cutout with clear tape, sticky side out, and secure each side of the sticky tape.
5. Laminate your fish and cut. Spread the fish all over the table.
6. **Option: Rub a small amount of glue on the back of each fish to keep them in place when laminating.**

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to turn the flyswatters so Jesus is facing up, and ask them to try to catch fish by tapping the fish with the flyswatter.
2. Then ask children to turn the flyswatters over with Jesus facing down and try again. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

“Friends! Wow! Look at all the fish on the table. Let’s go fish!”

During the Activity

“We’re going to use these crazy flyswatters as our fishing poles today. **(Give each child a flyswatter.)** One side has Jesus on it. Hold your ‘fishing pole’ so Jesus is facing up like this. **(Demonstrate.)** Now tap the fish to catch them. **(Pause.)** Did you catch any? **(Pause.)** No! There are plenty of fish, but no one has caught any. This time, let’s turn our fishing poles over so Jesus can help us. Tap the fish and see if you catch any this time. **(Pause.)** Wow! Look at all the fish you caught! **(Reset and repeat as desired.)** That was fun fishing with you. And Jesus helped us catch all the fish!”

DAY 1 / OPTION 3

Casting Nets

What You Need

- ☐ “Casting Nets Jesus” Activity Page
- ☐ “Casting Nets Fish” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Colored cardstock
- ☐ Plastic flyswatters
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Laminate pouches
- ☐ Clear packing tape
- ☐ Optional: Glue stick

After the Activity

“Today we learned about a fisherman named Peter. Peter had been fishing all night but didn’t catch any fish. Then Jesus got in Peter’s boat and wanted to go fishing. Peter did what Jesus told him to do, and his nets filled with fish! LOTS and LOTS and LOTS of fish! So many fish, their nets started to rip! They called to their friends in the other boat for help. Both boats got so full of fish, the boats almost sank! Peter was amazed! He knew that Jesus was special and could do amazing things.

Jesus did something that day that only He can do. Jesus helped Peter catch lots and lots and lots of fish! Jesus asked Peter to follow Him, and Peter did! Jesus asks us to follow Him too! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!”

GROUPS 5/5

Journal and Prayer

MADE TO
↓
Reflect

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Mark your Bible at John 8:12

During the Activity

1. Lead the children to do what you do as you move to your Small Group spot.
2. Sit down and gather the children around you.
3. Review the Memory Verse and motions, then encourage children to help you make a list of people in the journal.

After the Activity

Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"It's Small Group time! Today, we're going to play a game of 'Follow the Leader' while we walk to our Small Group spot. Just do what I do and follow me! (*Do fun actions, like skip, pat your head, or flap your arms like a bird as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) You did a great job following me! Now let's sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

During the Activity

(Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.) "In our Bible Story today, Peter couldn't catch any fish. Then, with Jesus, Peter caught SO MANY FISH. Peter knew Jesus was special. When Jesus told Peter to follow Him, he did! It doesn't matter where you live, what you look like, what your job is, what language you speak, what you've done . . . Jesus wants EVERYONE to follow Him! Say it after me: [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus!

Continue on next the page. ->

GROUPS 5/5

Journal and Prayer



Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen

"We're learning a new Bible verse that will help us remember that Jesus is so special and we can all follow Him. It says: 'Jesus (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) spoke to the people again. (*point to mouth*) He said (*blink right hand*) "I am the light (*blink left hand*) of the world (*move hands in sunburst*). Anyone who follows me (*walk in place*) will never (*cross hands*) walk in the darkness (*cover eyes*). They will have that (*blink right hand*) light. (*blink left hand*) They will have life.'" John 8:12 (*Open hands like a book.*)

We sound really good together! Go team! (*Give two thumbs up.*) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*)

"Today, we're going to make a list of people. It can be any person you can think of, because Jesus wants everyone to follow Him! When I say your name, tell me the name of one person, and I will write it in our journal." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

After the Activity

"Look at all the names! Let's use our list when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. We pray that (*read the list the children made*) will follow Jesus. And I pray that (*name each child*) will follow Jesus, too. We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."

If time allows, kids can play while waiting for parents to pick up. Don't forget to send home any crafts and today's Parent Que.

PreK Day 2

Today's Bible Story

Jesus walks on Water
Matthew 14:22-33

Basic Truth

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Who should I follow?

Bottom Line

I will follow Jesus

Memory Verse

"Jesus spoke to the people again. He said, 'I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life'" (John 8:12 NIV).

THIS MONTH



Home

Prompting action beyond the experience

- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue Card
- [Parent Cue App](#)



EveryChild Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with learning differences, or disabilities who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional pro-tips for including every child. Check out EveryChild Curriculum - available to all Amazing Life Curriculum Subscribers.

DAY 2 / OPTION 2

Worship

Story Starter

Engage children's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Worship, Bible Story, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting

What You Need

- ☐ Stretchy band, such as <https://pin.it/4yRgsfOaN>

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Ask children to come sit on the floor in a circle with you.

During the Activity

1. Encourage each child to grab hold of the stretchy band and move their arms in a circle as if they are rowing a boat.
2. Then sing, "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" together.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello, hello friends! It's wonderful to see you today! Come join me over here, and let's sit in a circle together."

During the Activity

"I have this really cool band, and it's super-stretchy! We're all going to hold the band. **(Make sure everyone has a hold of the band. Reposition your circle closer or farther back as needed.)** Now, follow me. Stretch the band out in front of you like this **(demonstrate)**, then bring it back to your lap like this. **(Demonstrate.)** Let's try it together. Out in front of you, back to your lap. Again. Out in front of you, back to your lap. **(Repeat a few times.)** Great! You've got it! This reminds me of rowing a boat! Let's sing the 'Row, Row, Row Your Boat' song while we row. Ready?"

"Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily
Life is but a dream!"

(Repeat as desired.)

"That was fun! Everyone, stand up while holding the band. Let's squish in together to make the band really small. **(Pause.)** Great job, friends! One, two, three, let go of the band."

3-5 Year-Olds

Worship

DAY 2 / OPTION 2

Row Your Boat

What You Need

- ☐ Stretchy band, such as <https://pin.it/4yRgsfOaN>

After the Activity

“Today in our true Bible story, we’ll hear a story about Jesus’ friends, the disciples, and how they learned that they can follow Jesus!

Bible Story & Song

→ Start the provided video for Day 1.

Help kids count down, worship, and engage with today’s message.

GROUPS 1/5

Follow the Light



Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Memory Verse Stone Cards" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Clear Con-Tact® paper
- ☐ Scissors

Note

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Preschool Getting Started folder and on Pinterest.



EveryChild Tips

Let children pick how they move down the path (walk, roll, crawl, tiptoe) to foster engagement and agency.

Offer seated hand motions as an alternative for children who have limited mobility or are overstimulated by movement.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Memory Verse Stone Cards" on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
2. Set up a stone path in your space using the "Memory Verse Stone Cards."
3. Mix in the picture cards in the following order:
 - Jesus
 - light bulb
 - solid black circle
 - light bulb
 - castle.
4. Once the stone path is positioned, cut Con-Tact paper into 10-inch by 12-inch sheets, remove backing and secure the stones to the floor.

During the Activity

1. Review the motions before beginning the activity.
2. Dim the lights and turn on the flashlight.
3. Lead the children step by step through the journey, saying each part of the verse as you step on each picture card.
4. Repeat as desired using different motions, such as marching, hopping, etc.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

Continue on next the page. ->

GROUPS 1/5

Follow the Light



Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Memory Verse Stone Cards" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Flashlight, one per Small Group
- ☐ Clear Con-Tact® paper
- ☐ Scissors

Note

You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.



EveryChild Tips

Let children pick how they move down the path (walk, roll, crawl, tiptoe) to foster engagement and agency.

Offer seated hand motions as an alternative for children who have limited mobility or are overstimulated by movement.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Our Memory Verse reminds us that when we follow Jesus, we don't have to walk in the dark all alone. Today, we are going to go on journey to the castle, but we must say our Memory Verse as we step on the stones along the way."

During the Activity

"Before we go down the path, let's say our verse together with the motions. Everybody ready? 'Jesus (**tap finger to middle of each palm**) spoke to the people again. (**point to mouth**) He said (**blink right hand**) 'I am the light (**blink left hand**) of the world (**move hands in sunburst**). Anyone who follows me (**walk in place**) will never (**cross hands**) walk in the darkness (**cover eyes**). They will have that (**blink right hand**) light. (**blink left hand**) They will have life.'" John 8:12 (**Open hands like a book.**)

Fantastic! Now let's take a walk down the path. (**Shine the light on each stone.**) Follow me! (**Pause.**) Wow, friends! You're doing an AMAZING job following my light and staying on the path. Oh look! I see Jesus on this stone. Say 'Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying...' (**With children.**) 'Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying...' Great job! What's on the next stone? That's right, it's a light! Say 'I am the Light of the world.' (**With children.**) 'I am the Light of the world.' Let's keep going. What shape do you see on this stone? (**Pause for responses.**) Yes, it's darkness. Say 'He who follows Me will not walk in darkness...' (**With children.**) 'He who follows Me will not walk in darkness...' We're almost there! What picture do you see now? (**Pause for responses.**) A big, bright light! Yes! Say 'But will have the Light of life.' (**With children.**) 'But will have the Light of life.' You did it! You followed the light all the way to the last stone. What picture do you see on this stone? (**Pause for responses.**) You got it! It's a castle! We made it to the end of the path, great job, everyone!"

After the Activity

"Peter followed Jesus even on the water! When things got scary, Jesus helped him. Just like Peter, when we follow Jesus, we don't have to worry! He will always be with us. He will always help us!

Who should we follow? Jesus!

Should we follow Him every day? Yes!

Let's say this together: [**Bottom Line**] I will follow Jesus!

DAY 2 / OPTION 2

Follow Jesus

What You Need

- ☐ "Slide Base" Activity Page 1/child
- ☐ "Slide Left and Right" Activity Page 1 set/child
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Blue Tissue Squares
- ☐ Glue Sticks
- ☐ Popsicle Sticks 2/child
- ☐ Scissors

Create

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Slide Base" and "Slide Left and Right" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Cut slots for the popsicle sticks, as shown in the example. (NOT on the printed line!)
3. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to color everything, but the water on their picture.
2. Pass out glue sticks and blue tissue squares. Help kids cover the water with tissue squares.
3. Have kids glue Jesus and Peter each to the end of a popsicle stick.
4. Slide Jesus' and Peter's sticks through the precut holes in the paper. Kids can move them around and help Peter get to Jesus.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page. →

DAY 2 / OPTION 2

Follow Jesus



What You Need

- ☐ "Slide Base" Activity Page 1/child
- ☐ "Slide Left and Right" Activity Page 1 set/child
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Blue Tissue Squares
- ☐ Glue Sticks
- ☐ Popsicle Sticks 2/child
- ☐ Scissors

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"We are learning to follow Jesus, so today we are going to create something fun with YOU to follow Jesus! Come sit and let's get started!"

During the Activity

"Look at your paper, we are going to color everything except the water. So, what are we going to color? (Boat, sky, Jesus, Peter.) Great! Now roll your paper into a tube, like this. (Demonstrate.) Secure it with a piece of tape along the entire edge. (Help as needed.) On this clear strip, I want you to add this sticker. (Give each child their sticker.) Who is on your sticker? (Pause for responses.) Yes! It's you! Help me wrap the clear strip around the tube and tape it closed. (Pause.) See how the clear strip can twist around the tube? (Demonstrate.)

"Okay, everyone, position your picture at the start of the path on the bottom of your tube. (Pause.) Twist the clear strip to make your picture move to follow the path all the way to the end. (Pause.) You made it! You followed Jesus! Hooray! Everybody, tell me, who should we follow? Jesus! Let's say this together: [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus. Great job! Go back to the start and follow the path again, this time stopping at the people and places along the path to tell everyone that Jesus loves them and they can follow Jesus too. (Repeat as many times as desired.) Great job, friends!"

After the Activity

"Jesus's friends, the disciples, followed Him and told everyone all about Jesus! We can tell everyone about Jesus and follow Him too! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus!"

GROUPS 2/5

Boat Act Out



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Pool noodles, five per Small Group
- ☐ Painter's tape
- ☐ Blue sheet or tablecloth



EveryChild Tips

Create a boat with chairs instead of on the ground.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Use the pool noodles to make a large boat shape on the floor in the middle of the activity area.
2. Secure the pool noodles to the floor with Painter's tape.
3. Lay the blue sheet or tablecloth on the floor next to the boat.

During the Activity

1. Choose one child to go first. This child will not get into the boat.
2. Have the other children get into the boat and sway back and forth as if they are riding on the water.
3. Retell the Bible Story.
4. Have the child who is not in the boat pretend to be Jesus and walk toward the boat on the blue sheet or tablecloth.
5. Choose another child to pretend to be Peter and get out of the boat and walk to Jesus.
6. Repeat the activity until each child has a turn to pretend to be Jesus.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"WOW! A boat! **(Point.)** Let's all get in!"

During the Activity

"This boat looks like the one that was in our Bible Story today. Let's act out the story. Let's pretend to ride in the boat **(sway with the children)**. Uh-oh! I see a storm coming. It's really super windy! The water is getting really rough! **(Sway harder and move around the boat.)** Oh no! Who is that I see on the water! **(Point to child being Jesus.)** It's Jesus! I see Jesus! **(Have child start walking.)** WOW! Jesus can do what is IMPOSSIBLE! Jesus is walking on the water! Peter, get out of the boat and walk to Jesus. Now Peter, stop and show us your afraid face **(Have child make an afraid face.)** Oh, Peter is afraid. Jesus, help Peter get back into the boat. Wow! Jesus helped Peter! Great job, everyone!" **(Repeat several times.)**

Continue on next the page. ->

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 2

GROUPS 2/5

Boat Act Out



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Pool noodles, five per Small Group
- ☐ Painter's tape
- ☐ Blue sheet or tablecloth

After the Activity

"Jesus can do anything! In our story today, Peter had to follow Jesus to walk on the water because that is something only Jesus can do. Jesus is special and can do amazing things because Jesus is God's Son. Jesus helped Peter when he was afraid. Jesus will always be with us and Jesus will help us too! Jesus loves us so much and wants us to follow Him.

Who should we follow? Jesus!

Should we follow Him every day? Yes!

Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

EveryChild Tips



Create a boat with chairs instead of on the ground.

GROUPS 3/5

Float in the Boat



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Large, shallow container
- ☐ Little People® figures
- ☐ Pool noodles
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Plastic tablecloth or tarp
- ☐ Paper towels

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Rubber gloves

Note

Never leave a tub of water unattended. When the activity is over, discard the water immediately



EveryChild Tips

Offer rubber gloves for children that may be sensitive to the texture of water.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Cut the pool noodle into approximately two-inch pieces, one per child.
2. Insert a Little People figure into the center of each noodle piece.
3. Spread the tablecloth or tarp over a table or on the floor. Place the container on the tablecloth/tarp and fill with water.
4. Place the pool noodle Little People nearby.

During the Activity

1. Ask children what they think will happen if we put the Little People in the water.
2. After children give answers, ask them to each put one Little People in the water.
3. Let children play with the people walking on water.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

“Hey friends, look what I have! I have a big tub of water for us to play in, and I have lots of Little People.” **(Hold up a little person in a pool noodle.)**

During the Activity

“What do you think will happen if we put these Little People in the water? Do you think they will sink or float? **(Pause for answers.)** Let’s add them to the water and see if they float. **(Pause.)** Wow! They float! It’s like each person is in a boat. What happens when we take the Little People out of the boats and put them in the water? **(Remove a people figure from the pool noodle and place in the water.)** Oh no, they don’t float! They sink. You can play and experiment with the people figures and the pool noodle boats. **(Pause.)** That was so fun! The people needed the pool noodle to stay on the water, didn’t they? Dry your hands and we’ll review today’s story.”

Continue on next the page. ->

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 2

GROUPS 3/5

Float in the Boat



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Large, shallow container
- ☐ Little People® figures
- ☐ Pool noodles
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Plastic tablecloth or tarp
- ☐ Paper towels

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Rubber gloves

Note

Never leave a tub of water unattended. When the activity is over, discard the water immediately

After the Activity

"In our Bible Story, Jesus walked ON the water, and then so did Peter! Only Jesus can do that, and only Peter could do that because Jesus was there. Jesus was with Peter and Jesus is with us too. We need a floaty and an adult when we are in the water, but Jesus didn't! He is so amazing, and we can follow Him wherever He tells us to go.

Who should we follow? Jesus!

Should we follow Him every day? Yes!

Let's say this together: [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus!

EveryChild Tips



Offer rubber gloves for children that may be sensitive to the texture of water.

SOCIAL 4/5

Peter's Brave Quest

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Lightweight paper or toy boat,
- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Painter's tape

→ Option: Clean, empty condiment bottles in place of paper plates

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Clear tub of water for sensory version



EveryChild Tips

Allow seated participation for kids with motor challenges.

Let children choose whether to blow the wind, hold the boat, or simply watch and listen.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Place the paper or toy boat on the paper.
2. Place the plates near each end.
 - If using a sensory tub, fill it halfway with water and allow each child to take turns sailing the boat.

During the Activity

1. Invite several children to stand at either end and make the storm by fanning the boat with the plates.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! We heard about a big storm in our Bible Story today. Now we're going to pretend this is the big lake from the story and make wind to move our boat, just like the storm!"

During the Activity

"When I call your name, come to the table. **(Call four to six children and divide them on either end of the table.)** Take a plate and wave it back and forth like this. **(Demonstrate.)** Now you try. Stay where you are and move your plates back and forth. **(Pause.)** Wow! Look at that boat move! The storm is strong, just like the one Peter was in. But Jesus didn't leave Peter. He walked right on the water to help! Okay friends. Put your plates down and sit down with the group. We'll have some more friends come make the storm. **(Call several more children to participate. Continue until each child has a turn.)** That was so fun making the storm with you today!"

After the Activity

"Jesus walked on water to the disciples in the boat. Jesus called Peter out onto the water. When Peter was walking on the water, he got scared by the wind and waves. But Jesus helped Peter! And Jesus helps us, too. We can follow Jesus no matter what! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus!

DAY 2 / OPTION 1

Walking

What You Need

- ☐ Music player
- ☐ VBS music
- ☐ Brown and blue construction paper
- ☐ Clear Con-Tact® paper
- ☐ Scissors

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Arrange the construction paper in a circle, intermixing the colors.
2. Cut Con-Tact paper one inch larger than the paper and secure the construction paper to the floor with it.

During the Activity

1. Have children walk around the circle to the music and then freeze where they are when the music stops.
2. Whoever is standing on the blue paper says the Bottom Line.
3. Repeat, but this time, the children on the brown paper say the Bottom Line. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"In our story today, Jesus did the impossible. Jesus walked on water! I have a fun game for us to play to help us remember that Jesus can do amazing things."

During the Activity

"When the music starts, I want you to start walking around the circle. **(Start music.)** Keep walking. What colors are you walking on? **(Pause for responses.)** Blue and brown, blue for the water and brown for the boat. **(Pause the music.)** Everybody freeze. **(Pause.)** If you are standing on a blue paper, tell me: Who should we follow? Jesus! Great job! **(Start music.)** Let's start walking. **(Pause the music.)** Everybody freeze. **(Pause.)** If you are standing on a brown paper, tell me: Who should we follow? Jesus! Awesome! **(Repeat as desired.)** Sit down where you are."

DAY 2 / OPTION 1

Walking

What You Need

- ☐ Music player
- ☐ VBS music
- ☐ Brown and blue construction paper
- ☐ Clear Con-Tact® paper
- ☐ Scissors

After the Activity

"In our story, we learned that Jesus did something that no one else could do. Jesus walked on water! Jesus had been teaching people all day on the beach. Jesus told His friends, the disciples, to get in a boat to go across the lake. A storm started while the disciples were in the boat, and they didn't know what to do. They saw something that looked like a person walking on the water. Jesus' friends were scared! It's IMPOSSIBLE to walk on the water! But it was Jesus! Jesus said, 'Don't be afraid. It's Me! Then Peter said, 'If it's really You, Jesus, call me out on the water!' And Jesus did! Peter started walking on the water to Jesus, but when he looked around and saw the wind, he got scared and started to sink into the water! But Jesus helped Peter, and they got into the boat together. Jesus, Peter, and the other disciples kept going so they could tell more people about God. Peter and the other disciples followed Jesus, and so can we. Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

3-5 Year-Olds

Rotation

DAY 2 / OPTION 1

Missions, Snack, & Music

What You Need

☐ Clean Table

What You Do

1. Gather kids around the tables as the Snack and Missions teams come into the room.
2. Assist the kids as needed to complete the activities.
3. Once snack and Missions is complete, take kids across the hall to the SPLASH room for Music.
4. Once Music is complete, return to your room to wrap up your activities for the day.

DAY 2 / OPTION 3

Roll to Walk

What You Need

- ☐ “Roll to Walk” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Painter’s tape
- ☐ Large foam die

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy “Roll to Walk” on cardstock, one per Small Group.
2. Tape the picture of Jesus to the wall at child’s height.

During the Activity

1. Take turns rolling the die and moving that many steps toward Jesus.
2. Children keep rolling and walking until they get to the picture of Jesus on the wall.
3. Go back and repeat as many times as desired.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

“Hello, friends! Today, we heard a story of how Jesus walked on the water to Peter and the other disciples. I have a walking game for us to play with this die.”

During the Activity

“Do you see the picture of Jesus on the wall over there? **(Point to the picture of Jesus.)** We’ll take turns rolling this die, and whatever number it lands on, that’s how many steps we will take to get to Jesus. **(Give the die to a child to roll.)** How many steps do we get to take? Let’s count the dots together. **(Count out loud as you touch each dot.)** Wow! Everybody, take **[number]** steps to Jesus. **(Count the steps aloud.)** Let’s roll the die, again. **(Give the die to another child to roll.)** How many steps do we take this time? **(Continue, allowing a different child to roll each time. Repeat as desired.)** Great job of rolling and walking! We made it to Jesus!”

After the Activity

“After Jesus walked on water to the disciple’s boat, and Peter walked on the water to Jesus, they got back into the boat. Jesus, Peter, and the other disciples kept going and telling more people about God. They followed Jesus! Jesus wants us to follow Him too! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!”

GROUPS 5/5

Journal and Prayer



Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Pretend to jump and splash in puddles as you move to Small Group.

During the Activity

1. Sit down and gather the children around you.
2. Review the Memory Verse and Hand Motions, then encourage children to help you make a list in the journal of our favorite things to do with water.

After the Activity

Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

“It’s Small Group time. Today we are going to pretend to jump in puddles of water on our way to our Small Group spot. Follow me and let’s go splash, splash, splash! **(Pretend to jump in water puddles as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)**

Splash! Splash! Splash! And one last big SPLASH! Yay! Here we are! Thanks for pretending with me. Let’s sit down and talk about today’s Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!”

During the Activity

(Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.) “Our Bible story today was about something that ONLY Jesus can do. What did Jesus do in our story that only He can do? **(Pause for response.)** YES! Jesus walked on water! He really walked on top of water! Isn’t that amazing! Jesus is amazing! When the storm was so big and the disciples were afraid. Jesus walked to them. When Peter started to sink in the water, who saved him? Yes Jesus! Peter and the other disciples knew that they could follow Jesus. And we can follow Jesus too! Let’s say our memory verse together. **(Open Bible to John 8:12)** “Jesus **(tap finger to middle of each palm)** spoke to the people again. **(point to mouth)** He said **(blink right hand)** “I am the light **(blink left hand)** of the world **(move hands in sunburst)**. Anyone who follows me **(walk in place)** will never **(cross hands)** walk in the darkness **(cover eyes)**. They will have that **(blink right hand)** light. **(blink left hand)** They will have life.” John 8:12 **(Open hands like a book.)**

GROUPS 5/5

Journal and Prayer



Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen

(Close Bible and lay it down.) ‘Jesus (tap finger to middle of each palm) spoke to the people again. (point to mouth) He said (blink right hand) “I am the light (blink left hand) of the world (move hands in sunburst). Anyone who follows me (walk in place) will never (cross hands) walk in the darkness (cover eyes). They will have that (blink right hand) light. (blink left hand) They will have life.”’ John 8:12 (Open hands like a book.) Great job! You are doing such a great job learning such a big verse!” (Give a high five to each child.)

“Now it’s time to write in our journal and pray. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.) Today we are going to make a list of our favorite things to do with water. It can be swimming, taking a bath, playing in the rain, fishing, boat rides—there are so many things we can do with water! When I say your name, tell me what YOU like to do with water.” (Say each child’s name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

After the Activity

“This is such a fun list! We can do lots of things with water. Jesus did something amazing and walked on the water in our Bible Story, and when Peter followed Jesus and trusted Him, he walked on water too. Jesus is special and can do amazing things because Jesus is God’s Son. Let’s pray and thank God for what we can do with water and that Jesus has the power to walk ON water. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.) Dear God, thank You for water. Thank You that we can (read the list the children made). And thank You that we can follow You. You are amazing! We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

Who should we follow? Jesus!

Should we follow Him every day? Yes!

Let’s say this together: [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus!

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 3

PreK Day 3

Today's Bible Story

Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection

Luke 23:32-45,55-56; Luke 24:1-6

Bottom Line

I will follow Jesus

Key Question

Basic Truth

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse

"Jesus spoke to the people again. He said, 'I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life'" (John 8:12 NIV).

THIS MONTH



Home

Prompting action beyond the experience

→ Devotionals for Kids

→ Parent Cue Card

→ [Parent Cue App](#)



EveryChild Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with learning differences, or disabilities who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional pro-tips for including every child. Check out EveryChild Curriculum - available to all Amazing Life Curriculum Subscribers.

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Story Starter

Engage children's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Worship, Bible Story, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

WORSHIP

LEADER: "Hey there, friends! I'm SO glad you're here for another day of Kingdom Quest!"

"Who feels like celebrating? We celebrate when it is our birthday by blowing out candles. Can you pretend to blow out candles with me?"

→ Pretend to blow out candles.

"We celebrate other people's birthdays by giving them a gift. Can you pretend to give a gift and say 'Surprise!'"

→ Pretend to give a gift.

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Surprise!"

LEADER: "And we definitely celebrate other people when we cheer for them. Can you clap and cheer with me?"

→ Clap and cheer.

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Yay! Woo-hoo! Way to go!"

LEADER: "Wow, you are really good at celebrating. Now, tell me ... who is the BEST person we could ever celebrate? (*Listen to responses.*) Oh, those are good people to celebrate! But I am thinking of one person, the very, very best! He made the whole world... and everything in it... and He loves us SO much—can you guess who I'm talking about?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "God!"

LEADER: "Yes, God! We can celebrate God because God is SO good to us. God gave us Jesus, and we can follow Jesus. So, let's sing and celebrate together!"

BIBLE STORY & SONGS

→ Start the provided video for Day 3.

Help kids count down, worship, and engage with today's message.

GROUPS 1/5

Glow and Say



Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Glowsticks, one per child

Note

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the “Memory Verse Hand Motions” PDF and video, included in the Preschool Getting Started folder and on Pinterest.



EveryChild Tips

Accept any form of participation: movement, echo, sign, or simply watching with a glowstick in hand.

Offer glowsticks as necklaces or bracelets for kids who don't want to hold them. Keep an extra quiet corner available for kids who may need a break from the dim light.

Offer seated or lap-based motions for children with limited mobility.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Dim the lights just a little.
2. Give each child a glowstick and let them crack and shake it, help as needed.
3. Let them hold the glowstick in their hand.

During the Activity

1. Say the Memory Verse and do the motions with the glowsticks.
2. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

“Friends, come over and stand with me. Did you know God gave us the Bible so we can hear from Him? His words are full of light and truth! We’re going to learn a special verse from the Bible using this! **(Hold up a glowstick.)** These are glowsticks **(give each child a glowstick)** but they aren’t glowing right now. **(Dim lights.)** These glowsticks are like us. When we follow Jesus, **(crack and shake your glowstick)** we have His light to guide us. **(Hold up your bright glowstick.)**

During the Activity

“Crack your glowsticks to make them shine bright. **(Help as needed.)** Let’s move and say it together with our glowsticks! Follow me. “Jesus **(tap finger to middle of each palm)** spoke to the people again. **(point to mouth)** He said **(blink right hand)** “I am the light **(blink left hand)** of the world **(move hands in sunburst)**. Anyone who follows me **(walk in place)** will never **(cross hands)** walk in the darkness **(cover eyes)**. They will have that **(blink right hand)** light. **(blink left hand)** They will have life.” John 8:12 **(Open hands like a book.)** That was super cool!” **(Repeat as desired.)**

Continue on next the page. ->

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 3

GROUPS 1/5

Glow and Say



Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ Glowsticks, one per child

Note

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the “Memory Verse Hand Motions” PDF and video, included in the Preschool Getting Started folder



EveryChild Tips

Accept any form of participation: movement, echo, sign, or simply watching with a glowstick in hand.

Offer glowsticks as necklaces or bracelets for kids who don't want to hold them. Keep an extra quiet corner available for kids who may need a break from the dim light.

Offer seated or lap-based motions for children with limited mobility.

After the Activity

“When we follow Jesus, it’s like walking with a glowstick. Jesus is the Light of the world! That means He helps us see the right way to go, and when we follow Him, we never have to be in the dark. Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!”

GROUPS 2/5

Create the Story

! ALLERGY

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Allergy Alert Poster"
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Play-Doh® in various colors

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Rubber gloves

Note

Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at the door to your room.



EveryChild Tips

Offer gloves for children with sensory sensitivities

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list Play-Doh® and post at the door.

During the Activity

1. Make different shapes with the Play-Doh as you review the Bible Story.
2. Once all of the shapes are made, line them up on the table in order to quickly review again.

After the Activity

Talk about how Jesus went away and came back, just like He said He would. Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever!

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hi, friends! Come sit with me. I'm going to make something from our Bible Story today, and I want you to tell me what it is."

During the Activity

(Start making a heart with the dough.) "Our Bible Story, today, began with God's love. **(Show the heart.)** Do you know what this is? Yes, it's a heart! God loves you and me so much that He sent us His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. **(Place the heart on the table and start making a stick person.)**

"One night, after Jesus had a special dinner with His friends, the disciples, some angry men came and took Jesus away. We'll pretend this is Jesus. **(Place the stick person on the table and start making a ball.)**

"The angry men hurt Jesus so bad that He died. Jesus died on a cross. Some of Jesus' friends buried Him in a tomb and rolled . . . **(roll the ball to the stick person)** a big stone in front of it. **(Leave the ball on the table and start making a sad face.)**

Continue on next the page. ->

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 3

GROUPS 2/5

Create the Story

! ALLERGY

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Allergy Alert Poster"
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Play-Doh® in various colors

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Rubber gloves

Note

Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at the door to your room.



EveryChild Tips

Offer gloves for children with sensory sensitivities

"Jesus was gone, and His friends were very, very sad. What do you see here? **(Pause.)** Yes, this is a sad face, because Jesus' friends were so sad. **(Place the sad face on the table and start making a happy face.)**

"But then something AMAZING happened! On the third day—count to three with me, one, two, three! Jesus came back alive! Sad faces turned into ... happy faces! **(Point to the happy face.)** When Jesus' friends saw Him, they were so happy that Jesus is alive!" **(Place the happy face on the table. Repeat a quick review as you point to the figures. See how much the children can remember without you telling them.)**

After the Activity

"God gave us Jesus to be your friend forever! Jesus died on a cross and came back alive! When we follow Him, we are saved! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

DAY 3 / OPTION 1

Jesus Came Back

What You Need

- ☐ “Jesus Came Back” Activity Page
- ☐ “Jesus Came Back Label” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- ☐ Brown paper cups
- ☐ Clear disposable plastic gloves
- ☐ Paper confetti
- ☐ Paper bowls
- ☐ Clear tape
- ☐ Double-sided tape
- ☐ Plastic or paper straws
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy “Jesus Came Back” on cardstock and cut one cutout per child.
2. Copy “Jesus Came Back Label” on label paper, one label per child.
3. Write each child’s name on their cup.
4. Punch a small hole near the bottom of each cup.
5. Place paper confetti in several bowls.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to tape the picture of Jesus to one of the fingers of the glove with double-sided tape.
2. Encourage children to place a handful of confetti in their cup.
3. Place each child’s glove on top of their cup and secure with clear tape around the edge.
4. Ask children to add their label.
5. Tuck the glove into the cup and help children insert the straw into the hole in their cup.
6. Talk about how Jesus went away and then ask children to blow gently into their straw to make Jesus come back.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page. →

DAY 3 / OPTION 1

Jesus Came Back

What You Need

- ☐ “Jesus Came Back” Activity Page
- ☐ “Jesus Came Back Label” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- ☐ Brown paper cups
- ☐ Clear disposable plastic gloves
- ☐ Paper confetti
- ☐ Paper bowls
- ☐ Clear tape
- ☐ Double-sided tape
- ☐ Plastic or paper straws
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker



② What You Say

Before the Activity

“Hello, friends! I’m so glad to know that God loves so much that He gave His only Son, Jesus! Come sit at the table with me, and let’s make a fun craft to help us remember our Bible Story today.”

During the Activity

“I’m going to put a piece of tape on one of the fingers of your glove. I want you to put this picture of Jesus on top of the tape. **(Pause.)** Now, take a handful of confetti and put it in your cup. **(Place glove on top of the cup and tape to secure.)** Jesus went away. **(Push the glove down in the cup.)** Add this sticker to your cup—it tells you where you can look in the Bible to find today’s story. **(Pause.)** You are almost finished! Add the straw to the hole on the side of your cup. **(Pause.)** Now, when I count to three, blow into the straw and watch what happens. One, two, three! **(Pause.)** Wow! Jesus came back! Just like He said He would! That was so cool! You can take these home with you today to help you retell today’s story.”

After the Activity

“In our story today, we heard how some angry people hurt Jesus and put Him on a cross and He died. His friends were so sad, they put Jesus’ body in a tomb and rolled a big stone in front of it. Three days went by, and Jesus came back, just like He said He would. Jesus is alive! God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to take away all our sins. We can follow Jesus because Jesus is alive! Jesus didn’t just do this for the people in our Bible Story, but for you and me too! Because Jesus is alive, we can know Him and follow Him! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together:
[Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus!”

GROUPS 3/5

What's Missing?



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Table
- ☐ Plastic cup
- ☐ Masking tape
- ☐ Small toys from around the room
- ☐ Tiny Jesus figurine
- ☐ Optional: "What's Missing?" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors in place of the tiny Jesus figure.v

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Tray



EveryChild Tips

Use cards or a tray showing all available objects so kids who are nonverbal or need visual choices can point.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Tape the plastic cup to the edge of the table with the open end facing away from the kids.
 2. Place all the objects on the table so the kids can see and name them.
 3. Gather the children around the table and explain that you're going to play a game to figure out what's missing from the table.
- Optional: Copy "What's Missing?" on cardstock and cut one cutout per Small Group.

During the Activity

1. One at a time, hide one small object in the cup without the children seeing it.
2. Invite children to guess what's missing.
3. Give clues if needed. Reveal the object and celebrate the guesses.
4. Keep going until all the children have had a turn to guess.

After the Activity

Connect the Bible Story to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Come over to the table. Today we're going to play a game to figure out what's missing! Look at all these fun things on our table. **(Secretly take one item from the table and quietly put it into the cup.)** I'm going to hide one item, then you get to guess which one it is!"

During the Activity

"Ready to play? **(Pause for responses.)** Okay! I've hidden one item from the table. Can you guess what it might be? Raise your hand if you want to try! **(After guesses.)** You're right! It was the **[object]!** **(Pull the object from the cup to show the children. As you are doing this, take another object and repeat.)** That was so fun! Let's try another. **(Keep going until all kids have had a chance to guess. Hide the Jesus figure last.)** Great job, friends! You were amazing guessers! Can you guess what the last item hiding is? **(Pause for responses.)** You guessed it! It was Jesus!"

Continue on next the page. ->

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 3

GROUPS 3/5

What's Missing?



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Table
- ☐ Plastic cup
- ☐ Masking tape
- ☐ Small toys from around the room
- ☐ Tiny Jesus figurine
- ☐ Optional: "What's Missing?" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors in place of the tiny Jesus figure.v

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Tray

After the Activity

"Even when we couldn't see what was hiding, it was still there, and it came back out! That reminds me of today's Bible Story. Jesus died on the cross, and His body was placed in a tomb with a big stone rolled in front of it. It looked like Jesus was gone. But then, surprise! Jesus came back! Just like He promised! Now we can know that Jesus is alive, and because He's alive, we can live a life with Him! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

EveryChild Tips



Use cards or a tray showing all available objects so kids who are nonverbal or need visual choices can point.

SOCIAL 4/5

Beautiful Castles

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Sandcastle shaped buckets
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Paint brushes
- ☐ Watercolor paints
- ☐ Shallow tubs
- ☐ Plastic tablecloth or tarp

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Large grip paint brushes



EveryChild Tips

For children who need fine motor support, offer large grip paint brushes.

MADE TO
↓
Explore

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Fill the buckets with water and freeze one castle for every 3-4 children.
2. Cover the table with a tablecloth or tarp.
3. Place ice castles in a shallow tub and place them on the covered table.
4. Spritz each paint set with water and place on the table with the paintbrushes.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to paint the ice castles.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come look at these castles! They're ice castles, and we get to paint them today!"

During the Activity

"Take your paintbrush and pick a color to paint the castle. **(Pause.)** Wow, look at how you can paint the castle and make it so beautiful. I love seeing all the colors you're using. **(Let children continue to paint as desired, exploring how the colors mix as the ice melts.)** Have you ever painted on ice before? **(Pause for responses.)** That was a fun way to paint!"

After the Activity

"Today we heard a story about how some angry people hurt Jesus and put Him on a cross, and He died. His friends were so sad. They put Jesus' body in a tomb and rolled a big stone in front of it. Three days went by, and Jesus came back, just like He said He would. Jesus is alive! What a beautiful day! Jesus didn't just do this for the people in our Bible Story, but for you and me too! Jesus loves us so much! Because of Jesus, we are saved.

Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

DAY 3 / OPTION 1

Empty

What You Need

- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Colorful circle stickers
- ☐ Painter's tape

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Create a heart outline on the floor with tape.
2. Place a circle sticker inside each cup on the bottom, except for one that you leave empty.
3. Set the cups out on the floor, rim side down, around the activity area.

During the Activity

1. Encourage the children to grab a cup and come back to sit at the heart.
2. Encourage children to look at the bottom of their cups.
3. Call on the child with the empty cup (the cup with no sticker) to raise their hand.
4. Compare the empty cup to the empty tomb using the dialogue below.
5. If time allows, gather the cups and set them out in the activity area again.
6. Then let the children gather them and return to the heart to find the empty cup.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come sit with me at this great big heart on the floor! **(Pause.)** Now look around, do you see all these cups on the floor? There is one for everyone! When I say, 'Go,' I want you to grab a cup and come back and sit at the heart. Ready? Three, two, one, go!"

DAY 3 / OPTION 1

Empty

What You Need

- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Colorful circle stickers
- ☐ Painter's tape

During the Activity

"Great job! Okay, everyone, look inside your cup. What do you see? **(Pause.)** A sticker. Does anyone NOT have a sticker? Does anyone have an empty cup? Raise your hand if you have the empty cup. **(Pause.)** There's our empty cup! This empty cup reminds me of our true story from the Bible! When Jesus was hurt and put on the cross by the mean people, and died. Then Jesus' friends put His body in a tomb and rolled a big stone in front of the opening. Three days later, Jesus' friends went to the tomb, and it was EMPTY! Jesus wasn't there. Jesus said He had to go away, but He would come back. And He did! I'll put the cups out and we can play again!" **(Repeat as desired.)**

After the Activity

"Friends, Jesus LOVES you, **(point)** and you, **(point)** and you! **(Continue with each child.)** Jesus went away and came back, just like He said He would. Jesus is alive! God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to take away all our sins. We can follow Jesus because Jesus is alive! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

DAY 3 / OPTION 3

Toss to the Cross

What You Need

- ☐ Foam board
- ☐ 12-ounce plastic cups
- ☐ Ping-pong balls
- ☐ Hot glue gun
- ☐ Hot glue sticks
- ☐ Painter's tape
- ☐ Container
- ☐ Purple construction paper

Note: Use the hot glue gun before children arrive and store it out of reach in another room.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Set up the toss to the cross game by arranging seven rows of five cups each.
2. Hot glue the bottom of each cup to the foam board.
3. Cut eleven strips of purple construction paper to fit the cups.
4. Roll and place one strip in each of the cups in the middle column and the third row across.
5. Place the ping-pong balls in the container.
6. Set the cross board on one side of the room, on an incline if needed.
7. Place a tape line on the floor about five feet from the board.
8. Place the container on the floor next to the tape line.

During the Activity

1. Invite each child to toss their ball toward the cross board.
2. After each toss, encourage children to shout, "Jesus is alive!" Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Today we're going to move, toss and aim just like we're on a quest to discover the best surprise ever! Come line up with me at the tape line."

During the Activity

"Are you ready to toss to the cross and hear the GOOD NEWS? **[Child's name]** pick a ball and give it a toss. **(Pause.)** Great toss! You landed on the cross! Jesus is alive! Say it with me! **(With children.)** Jesus is alive! Hooray! Okay **[child's name]** it's your turn! **(Continue with each child.)**

Let's keep tossing to see if we can get a ping-pong ball into every part of the cross. **(Repeat as desired.)** That was so much fun tossing to the cross!"

DAY 3 / OPTION 3

Toss to the Cross

What You Need

- ☐ Foam board
- ☐ 12-ounce plastic cups
- ☐ Ping-pong balls
- ☐ Hot glue gun
- ☐ Hot glue sticks
- ☐ Painter's tape
- ☐ Container
- ☐ Purple construction paper

Note: Use the hot glue gun before children arrive and store it out of reach in another room.

After the Activity

"Let's celebrate our best discovery ever, Jesus is alive! Today, in our Bible Story, we learned that God sent His Son, Jesus, to take away all our sins and to be our friend forever. Some angry people hurt Jesus and put Him on a cross, and He died. It was so sad. His friends put Jesus' body in a tomb and rolled a big stone in front of it. Three days went by, and Jesus came back. Jesus is alive! God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to take away all our sins. We can follow Jesus because Jesus is alive! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!"

DAY 3 / OPTION 3

Missions, Snack, & Music

What You Need

☐ Clean Table

What You Do

1. Gather kids around the tables as the Snack and Missions teams come into the room.
2. Assist the kids as needed to complete the activities.
3. Once snack and Missions is complete, take kids across the hall to the SPLASH room for Music.
4. Once Music is complete, return to your room to wrap up your activities for the day.

DAY 3 / OPTION 2

Crazy Confetti

What You Need

- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Paper confetti or tissue squares

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Sit in a circle with the children.

During the Activity

1. Give each child a paper plate and show them how to fan it up and down.
2. Place the confetti in the middle of the circle.
3. Count to three, and ask the children to fan the plate up and down to make the confetti fly.
4. Shout: "Hooray! Jesus is alive!"
5. Gather the confetti back into the middle of the circle and repeat as desired.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come over and sit on the floor with me. I have something super-fun for us to do today!"

During the Activity

"I have a paper plate for everyone—we're going to use it like a fan. Watch me. **(Demonstrate.)** You try. **(Pause.)** Great job! Freeze your plates. **(Add the confetti.)** Now, for the fun! When I count to three, I want you to fan your plates again. One, two, three! Fan your plates! **(Pause.)** Whoa! Look at the confetti fly! Keep fanning and shout: 'Hooray! Jesus is alive!' **(Repeat.)** Okay, freeze your plates. Look around, the confetti went everywhere! Let's gather it back in the middle of the circle, and we'll do it again. **(Repeat as desired.)** That was so much fun!"

DAY 3 / OPTION 2

Crazy Confetti

What You Need

- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Paper confetti or tissue squares

After the Activity

“Today, in our Bible Story, we learned that God sent His Son, Jesus, to take away all our sins and to be our friend forever. Some angry people hurt Jesus and put Him on a cross, and He died. It was so sad. His friends put Jesus’ body in a tomb and rolled a big stone in front of it. One, two, three days went by, and Jesus came back, just like He said He would. Jesus is alive! God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to take away all our sins. We can follow Jesus because Jesus is alive! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!”

GROUPS 5/5

Journal and Prayer

MADE TO
↓
Reflect

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Memory Verse Card from Day One in your Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen
- ☐ Jewel or sparkly stickers – one per child

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Encourage children to pretend to roll a big stone as you walk to your Small Group area.

During the Activity

1. Review the Memory Verse and Hand Motions, then encourage children to add a jewel or sparkly sticker around Jesus' name in the journal when their name is called.

After the Activity

Pray with the children.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"It's Small Group time. Today we are going to pretend to jump in puddles of water on our way to our Small Group spot. Follow me and let's go splash, splash, splash! **(Pretend to jump in water puddles as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)**

Splash! Splash! Splash! And one last big SPLASH! Yay! Here we are! Thanks for pretending with me. Let's sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

During the Activity

(Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.) "In our Bible story today, we learned about another big stone that was rolled. Do you remember the big stone I'm talking about? **(Pause for response.)** Right! When Jesus died, His friends put His body in a tomb and rolled a big stone in front of it. When Jesus' friends went back, the stone had been rolled away, and Jesus was gone! Do you remember where Jesus was? **(Pause for response.)** Yes! Jesus is alive! The big stone was rolled away, and Jesus wasn't in the tomb because Jesus is alive!

Continue on next the page. ->

GROUPS 5/5

Journal and Prayer

MADE TO
↓
Reflect

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Memory Verse Card from Day One in your Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen
- ☐ Jewel or sparkly stickers – one per child

“The Bible verse we are learning will help us always remember to follow Jesus! It says: ‘Jesus (tap finger to middle of each palm) spoke to the people again. (point to mouth) He said (blink right hand) “I am the light (blink left hand) of the world (move hands in sunburst). Anyone who follows me (walk in place) will never (cross hands) walk in the darkness (cover eyes). They will have that (blink right hand) light. (blink left hand) They will have life.”’ John 8:12 (Open hands like a book.) Let’s stand up and say that together with the motions. (Lead the children in saying the verse with the motions several times.) Wow! You sound SO good! (Clap for the children.)

“Now let’s sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold the journal, fun-shaped pen, and stickers.) Since today’s Bible Story was so special, I thought we could do something special in our prayer journal today. I am going to write the name ‘Jesus’ really big in the middle of the page. Watch while I write ‘Jesus.’ J-E-S-U-S. Jesus. Now I am going to say your names. When I say your name, I will give you a special sticker to put around Jesus’ name. This will be a way to remember that God loves us so much He gave us Jesus. Jesus died and came back to life so He could be our friend forever and ever! That is so special! Okay, listen for your name! (Say each child’s name. When they come to you, give them a special sticker to put around “Jesus” in the prayer journal.) Look how sparkly and how beautiful! Thank you for doing that with me.”

After the Activity

“Now, would anyone like to pray before I pray? (Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.) Dear God, Thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus. Thank You that Jesus died and came back alive and will be our friend forever and ever. That is amazing! I pray we will always remember to follow Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together: [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus!

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 4

PreK Day 4

Today's Bible Story

Peter's Denial and Restoration
Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75, Mark
16:6-7, John 21:15-19

Key Question

Who should I follow?

Bottom Line

Basic Truth

Jesus wants to be my friend
forever.

Memory Verse

"Jesus spoke to the people again.
He said, 'I am the light of the
world. Anyone who follows me
will never walk in darkness. They
will have that light. They will have
life'" (John 8:12 NIV).

THIS MONTH



Home

Prompting action beyond the experience

- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue Card
- [Parent Cue App](#)



EveryChild Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with learning differences, or disabilities who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional pro-tips for including every child. Check out EveryChild Curriculum - available to all Amazing Life Curriculum Subscribers.

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Story

Engage children's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Worship, Bible Story, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

WORSHIP

LEADER: "Hi, friends! I am SO glad you are here for another day of Kingdom Quest! Let's start off our adventure today with some animals. Can you roar like a lion?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Roar! Roar!"

→ Act comically afraid.

LEADER: "Wow, you sound just like a big lion! Now what about a cow? They go, 'Mooo!' Can you do that with me?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Moo! Moo!"

LEADER: "Great job! What about another animal that makes a loud noise? Can you say 'cock-a-doodle-doo' like a rooster?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Cock-a-doodle-doo! Cock-a-doodle-doo!"

LEADER: "Whoa, you are so great at making animal sounds! Now, tell me: Who made all those animals?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "God!"

LEADER: "Yes, God made all the animals, and God made you! And God loves you so much that He gave us Jesus. So, stand up and let's sing to our great big God.

BIBLE STORY & SONGS

→ Start the provided video for Day 4.

Help kids count down, worship, and engage with today's message.

GROUPS 1/5

Karaoke

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Karaoke Machine with microphone or pretend microphones
- ☐ Touch lights
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Painter's tape
- ☐ Duct tape

Note

You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.



EveryChild Tips

Offer noise-cancelling headphones for children with sound sensitivities

Allow children to sing in pairs or groups

Allow children to dance, move, or act out the verse

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Designate a space for the stage and mark the floor with painter's tape.
2. Place batteries in the lights, replace the backing, and tape shut with duct tape.
3. Set the touch lights in a circle around the stage.
4. Put the karaoke machine and/or microphones on the stage. Say the Memory Verse as you do the motions together with the children.

During the Activity

1. Give each child a chance to go on stage and sing or speak the verse into the microphone.
2. You can go first to show how it is done, and make it fun.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends! Look, I made a special stage area with a microphone because we are going to sing our Memory Verse today! That sounds so fun! But first let's review the verse with the motions together. "Jesus (**tap finger to middle of each palm**) spoke to the people again. (**point to mouth**) He said (**blink right hand**) "I am the light (**blink left hand**) of the world (**move hands in sunburst**). Anyone who follows me (**walk in place**) will never (**cross hands**) walk in the darkness (**cover eyes**). They will have that (**blink right hand**) light. (**blink left hand**) They will have life.'" John 8:12 (**Open hands like a book.**) Way to go! I think we're ready!"

Continue on next the page. ->

GROUPS 1/5

Karaoke

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Karaoke Machine with microphone or pretend microphones
- ☐ Touch lights
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Painter's tape
- ☐ Duct tape

Note

You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.



During the Activity

"Everyone have a seat, you'll be the audience. When someone is done singing, you can clap and cheer. You don't have to sing; it is okay if you just want to watch and be the audience. Who wants to sing the verse first? **(If no one volunteers, you can go and show them what to do.)** Oh great, **[Child's name]** wants to go. Step onto the stage, stand inside the lights. Let me get the stage ready. **(Tap on the lights and hand child the microphone.)** Sing the verse as best you can, and I will help you. **(Give the child chunks of words to sing if needed.)** Wow **[child's name]**! That was wonderful, everyone, let's clap. **(Pause.)** Who wants to go next? **(Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.)** That was fun. You did a great job singing our verse and cheering for our singers."

After the Activity

"I love our verse because it tells us we can follow Jesus. Let's say our verse together one more time with the motions. 'Jesus **(tap finger to middle of each palm)** spoke to the people again. **(point to mouth)** He said **(blink right hand)** "I am the light **(blink left hand)** of the world **(move hands in sunburst)**. Anyone who follows me **(walk in place)** will never **(cross hands)** walk in the darkness **(cover eyes)**. They will have that **(blink right hand)** light. **(blink left hand)** They will have life.'" John 8:12 **(Open hands like a book.)** Great job! Tell me, Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

EveryChild Tips



Offer noise-cancelling headphones for children with sound sensitivities

Allow children to sing in pairs or groups

Allow children to dance, move, or act out the verse

GROUPS 2/5

Peter and Jesus



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Sad/Happy Face" Activity Page
- ☐ "Happy/Excited Faces" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Five straight back chairs
- ☐ Five solid or striped pieces of fabric (at least three yards per piece)
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Fishing net
- ☐ Two clothespins

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Smiley/Happy Faces" on cardstock front and back, one set per Small Group.
2. Copy "Happy/Excited Faces" on cardstock front and back, three sets per Small group.
3. Place the "Sad/Happy Faces" Activity Page on Chair One.
4. The straight back chairs will be used as "people" from today's Bible story.
5. Use the scissors to cut a long strip of material from the edge of each piece of fabric.
6. Drape a piece of fabric over each chair, covering the back all the way to the floor if possible.
7. Secure the fabric in place by using the long strip you cut to tie around the back of the chair.
8. Line up the chairs with the covered backs facing your activity area.
 - Chair One Represents Peter.
 - Chair Two represents the disciples fishing. Hang the fishing net over the back of the chair on top of the fabric.
 - Chair Three represents Jesus.
 - Chairs four and five represent the disciples seeing Jesus. Use a clothespin to hang the Activity Page on the back of each chair with the smiley face facing out.

During the Activity

1. Use the chairs to retell today's Bible Story.
2. Stand behind each chair as you review the story for the children.
3. Then let the children take turns standing behind each chair as they act it out.

After the Activity

Gather all materials and other items from the chair backs for clean-up.

Continue on next the page. ->

GROUPS 2/5

Peter and Jesus



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Sad/Happy Face" Activity Page
- ☐ "Happy/Excited Faces" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Five straight back chairs
- ☐ Five solid or striped pieces of fabric (at least three yards per piece)
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Fishing net
- ☐ Two clothespins

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come sit here with me! Do you see these silly-looking chairs? Do they remind you of the true Bible story we heard today?"

During the Activity

"Jesus died on a cross, He was put in a tomb, and His friends were so sad. Tell me, did Jesus stay dead? **(Pause.)** No way! We know that Jesus is alive! He came back alive just like He said He would!

(Stand behind Chair One) "This is Peter. Peter was friends with Jesus. But before Jesus died and went away, Peter did something wrong. He said he was not friends with Jesus. He even said that three times. That is sad. **(Flip to show sad face)** **(Stand behind Chair Two.)** "Not long after Jesus came back alive, Jesus' friends were out fishing. Everyone, throw out your nets and pull them back in. Great job.

(Stand behind Chair Three.) "As they were coming in from fishing, they saw someone standing on the beach. Can you guess who it was? **(Pause.)** Yes, it was Jesus!

(Stand behind Chair Four with happy/excited faces. Happy face showing.) "Jesus' friends were so happy! **(Flip the sign over to reveal the excited side.)** They were EXCITED to see Jesus! Their friend Jesus was alive.

(Stand behind Chair Five with happy/excited faces. Happy face showing.) "Jesus made breakfast for His friends, right there on the beach. Jesus told Peter that He loved him no matter what. **(Flip the sign over to reveal the excited side.)** Isn't that exciting? Jesus loved Peter no matter what and forgave Peter. **(Walk to Chair one and flip the sign over to reveal the excited side.)** Jesus loves us no matter what and will always forgive us. That is the best, most exciting news!"

After the Activity

"Jesus' friends were so happy and excited to see Jesus. Why? Because Jesus came back alive! Peter was so happy and excited. Why? Because Jesus loved him no matter what and forgave him. That's the best news! Jesus loves us no matter what! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

DAY 4 / OPTION 2

Heart in the Shield



What You Need

- ☐ White Cardstock
- ☐ Copy Paper
- ☐ Painters Tape
- ☐ Washable Ink Pads
- ☐ Wet Wipes
- ☐ Permanent marker

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Cut out a large heart (about ½ page) from the copy paper for each child.
2. In the middle of the cardstock, write “I will follow Jesus” so that it will be covered by the copy paper heart for each child.
3. Using painter's tape, attach the heart to the cardstock, covering the words for each child.
4. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to use their finger to make dots with the ink pads all around the heart on their paper, making sure the edge of the heart is covered all the way around
2. Help kids clean their hands with a wipe.
3. Direct kids to gently lift the heart off their paper. Help as needed.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

“Friends, come over to the table, I have a heart with a hidden message on it. Once you decorate it, you'll find it.”

During the Activity

“Can you show me one finger?. **(Pause.)** Great job! We are going to use that finger to help find our hidden message, but first we need some colors. (Lay out washable ink pads) Now, lets take our finger and press it on one of the colors (Pause) Great, now press your finger on the white part of your paper. That's pretty neat, huh? Now keep going! Put colors all over the white part of your paper and make sure you get all the way around the edge of your heart. (When children are done, help them clean their hands with a wet wipe) These are so beautiful! Has anyone found our hidden message? (Wait for responses) Hmm, where do you think it could be? (Pause)

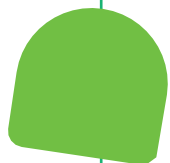
Continue on next the page. ->

DAY 4 / OPTION 2

Heart in the Shield

What You Need

- ☐ White Cardstock
- ☐ Copy Paper
- ☐ Painters Tape
- ☐ Washable Ink Pads
- ☐ Wet Wipes
- ☐ Permanent marker



Let's be gentle and try lifting the heart off our paper; maybe it's under there! Hooray! You found it! You found

the message and a heart. Hearts make us think of love! In our Bible Story, we learned that God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever! Jesus had an important job for Peter: to go and tell everyone that Jesus loves them! We can do

that too! Everyone, raise your shields and say **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus! **(With children.)** **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!"

After the Activity

"We are learning how to follow Jesus. In our Bible Story today, we learned when the mean people took Jesus away, Peter was scared and said he didn't know Jesus. Peter was very sad. Peter knew that saying he was not friends with Jesus was wrong. Do you remember what Jesus did one day after He died and came back to life? **(Pause.)** Jesus found Peter, Jesus made food for Peter, and Jesus forgave Peter! Jesus loves us so much! Even if we make a mistake, we can ask Jesus to forgive us! Jesus gave Peter an important job to do. He told Peter to tell everyone that Jesus loves them, too! Peter obeyed Jesus and followed Him! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow

DAY 4 / OPTION 1

Peter Denies

What You Need

- ☐ “Peter Denies” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Painter’s tape in four different colors

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy “Peter Denies” on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
2. Space each picture in order on the floor and secure with tape.
3. Create a tape line to the first picture with one color tape.
4. Connect each picture with a different color tape.

During the Activity

1. Ask children to follow you as you walk the tape paths.
2. Stop at each picture as you review the story.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

“Friends come over here with me and let’s see where we are going today! Do you see this colorful tape path? Stand behind me and we will get started.”

During the Activity

“Let’s follow the [color] tape path and see where it leads. **(Walk to the first picture.)** Look, it’s Jesus and the disciples eating dinner together before Jesus went away. Let’s go to the next picture, follow the [color] line. This is a picture of Peter with people who asked him if he was Jesus’ friend. Did Peter say yes or did he say no? **(Pause for responses.)** That’s right. He said no. Peter was asked three different times if he was Jesus’ friend and Peter said no each time. Let’s follow the [color] line and see where it takes us. **(Pause.)** This is a picture of Peter. He looks so sad. He felt so badly that he went away and started crying. Okay friends! Let’s follow this [color] line and see where it takes us next. **(Pause.)** Who is in this picture? **(Pause for answers.)** That’s right! It’s Jesus! Jesus loved Peter and forgave him! Peter followed Jesus and so can we!”

DAY 4 / OPTION 1

Peter Denies

What You Need

- ☐ “Peter Denies” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Painter’s tape in four different colors

After the Activity

“In our Bible Story, Peter made a mistake. He told people three different times that he didn’t know Jesus. Oh no! But after Jesus died and came back, Jesus found Peter and forgave him for his mistake! Jesus ate with Peter, talked with Peter and gave him a very important job. Jesus wanted Peter to go and tell everyone that Jesus loves them and that everyone can follow Jesus. Peter helped people follow Jesus, just like Jesus told him to do. Now we can follow Jesus and do what Jesus tells us to do! And when we don’t do what Jesus says, Jesus will forgive us and help us try again, because Jesus loves us and wants to be our friend forever. Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!”

GROUPS 3/5

Wiped Away

ALLERGY

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Allergy Alert Poster"
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Plastic tablecloth
- ☐ Shaving cream
- ☐ Table
- ☐ Baby wipes

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Gloves

Note

Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (*in the Prelude folder*) and post it at the door to your room.



EveryChild Tips

Provide gloves for sensory sensitivities

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list shaving cream, and post at the door.
2. Cover the table with a plastic tablecloth.

During the Activity

1. Spray a small mound of shaving cream in front of each child.
2. Encourage children to spread out the shaving cream, then draw a heart in it.
3. Next, encourage them to draw a sad face with tears as you review the Bible Story.
4. Encourage them to wipe away the sad face and draw a happy face. Clean hands.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come find a spot at the table. If you have long sleeves on, pull them up. (*Help as needed.*) We're going to get our hands messy today!"

During the Activity

(Walk around and squirt shaving cream on the table in front of each child.) "I'm going to give you each some shaving cream to play with. Use your hands to spread it out. (*Pause.*) Can you use your finger to draw a heart in the shaving cream? (*Pause.*) Good job. Hearts make us think of love.

"Next to your heart (*or inside the heart if the child drew their heart really big*), draw a sad face. (*Pause.*) This reminds me of today's Bible Story. Jesus and Peter were good friends, but when Jesus was taken away, Peter was asked three different times if he was friends with Jesus, and he said no all three times! Peter felt so bad that he went away and started crying. Can you draw tears on your sad face?"

Continue on next the page. ->

3-5 Year Olds

Small Group

Day 4

GROUPS 3/5

Wiped Away

I ALLERGY

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Allergy Alert Poster"
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Plastic tablecloth
- ☐ Shaving cream
- ☐ Table
- ☐ Baby wipes

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Gloves

Note

Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (*in the Prelude folder*) and post it at the door to your room.



"But after Jesus died and came back, Jesus talked with Peter and forgave him. Wipe away your sad faces. **(Pause.)** Now draw a happy face next to your heart. **(Pause.)** Jesus told Peter to go and tell others that Jesus loves them and help them follow Jesus. And Peter did what Jesus said! Yay!"

After the Activity

"We can follow Jesus and do what Jesus tells us to do, and when we don't do what Jesus says, Jesus will forgive us and help us try again, because Jesus loves us and wants to be our friend forever. Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

EveryChild Tips



Provide gloves for sensory sensitivities

DAY 4 / OPTION 2

Follow the Path

What You Need

- ☐ “Follow the Path” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Heart cutouts
- ☐ Painter’s tape
- ☐ Small treasure chest

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy “Follow the Path” on cardstock, one per Small Group.
2. Use the heart cutouts as path/trail markers to create a path.
3. Place the picture of Jesus inside the treasure chest at the end of the path.

During the Activity

1. As the children walk, looking for the hearts.
2. When they reach the end, help them open the chest and reveal the surprise inside, Jesus.
3. Celebrate together when they find Him.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

“Friends! We are going on a journey. Our path is marked with hearts like this one. **(Point to the starting heart marker.)** Hearts make us think of love! It’s a love path! I want you to look out for the hearts so we know which way to go. Let’s follow it to the end. There might be a special treasure at the end. Are you ready? Let’s go!”

During the Activity

“Look for the next heart as we walk. Do you see one? **(Pause.)** there it is! Let’s walk to that heart and stop. **(Pause.)** Say **[Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus (With children.) [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus! Hooray! Look for the next heart. Do you see it? Yes! There it is, let’s walk to that heart. (Pause at this heart.) Say [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus! (With children.) [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus! (Continue following the heart path and saying the Bottom Line until you get to the treasure chest.) Yay! We made it to the end of the path! Wow, look! There’s a treasure box. Let’s open it up and see what’s inside. (Open the treasure box and hold it low so all the children can see inside.) Look! It’s Jesus! What a special treasure!”**

DAY 4 / OPTION 2

Follow the Path

What You Need

- ☐ “Follow the Path” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Heart cutouts
- ☐ Painter’s tape
- ☐ Small treasure chest

After the Activity

“This reminds me of our story today. Peter saw all the amazing things Jesus did. But when Peter got scared, he made a mistake. He said he didn’t know Jesus! Was Peter mad at Peter? No way! Jesus still loved Peter. Jesus talked with Peter, ate with him, and forgave him. And then Jesus gave Peter a big job, to help others follow Him! So remember, even when we make mistakes, Jesus will forgive us, too. And we can follow Jesus, just like Peter! Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let’s say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!”

SOCIAL 4/5

Breakfast with Jesus

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Toy breakfast food
- ☐ Toy plates, cups, and utensils
- ☐ Table
- ☐ Toy kitchen

EveryChild Tips



Offer various textures in pretend food (soft fish, smooth cups, etc.) for sensory engagement.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Set up the kitchen center or table with pretend food.

During the Activity

1. Invite children to pretend to cook and serve Jesus and each other.

After the Activity

Connect the Bible Story to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Gather over here at the table/kitchen with me."

During the Activity

"I have some yummy food, we can pretend we're cooking breakfast! What food will you make? **(Pause for responses.)** Who are you cooking for? **(Pause for responses.)** Wow! That's fantastic! What would you make Jesus for breakfast? **(Pause for responses.)** That sounds yummy! Could I please have some too? **(Pause.)** Thank you!" **(Continue free play as desired.)**

After the Activity

"This reminds me of the part in our Bible Story when Jesus and Peter ate breakfast together on the beach. Peter made a mistake, but Jesus still loved Peter! After Jesus died and came back, Jesus found Peter and forgave Peter. They talked and ate together and then Jesus gave Peter a big job to do! Jesus wanted Peter to go and tell everyone, everywhere about Him and to help everyone follow Jesus just like he did. That goes for us, too!

Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

3-5 Year-Olds

Rotation

DAY 4 / OPTION 3

Missions, Snack, & Music

What You Need

☐ Clean Table

What You Do

1. Gather kids around the tables as the Snack and Missions teams come into the room.
2. Assist the kids as needed to complete the activities.
3. Once snack and Missions is complete, take kids across the hall to the SPLASH room for Music.
4. Once Music is complete, return to your room to wrap up your activities for the day.

DAY 4 / OPTION 3

Heart Search

What You Need

- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Heart stickers
- ☐ Table
- ☐ Painter's tape

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Arrange the table at one end of your activity area. Place a heart sticker on the bottom of two cups. Create two stacks of cups, each stack with one heart sticker cup added towards the bottom of the stack. Place stacks right-side up on either end of the table. Place a line of tape on the floor on the opposite side of the room. Divide children into two teams.

During the Activity

2. Children, in each group, will take turns running to the table to pick one cup from their stack, look at the bottom for the heart, then place it upside down. If their cup has a heart sticker, encourage child to shout [Bottom Line] I will follow Jesus! And their team wins. If the cup has no heart, instruct children to place their cup upside down next to the stack and run back to continue playing. After a win, mix cups up and play again.

After the Activity

1. Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

“Friends, today we’re going to play a game to look for a heart in those stacks of cups. **(Point.)** Let’s divide our group into two teams **(help equally divide the children into two groups)**, and one group stands here on the line in front of that stack of cups, and our other team will stand on the line there.”

DAY 4 / OPTION 3

Heart Search

What You Need

- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Heart stickers
- ☐ Table
- ☐ Painter's tape

During the Activity

“Okay, to play our game, one person from each team will run to the table and take one cup from their stack, look at the bottom, and place it upside down like this. **(Demonstrate.)** If the cup you pick has a heart on the bottom, shout **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus! And your team wins! If your cup doesn't have a sticker, place it right side up like this. **(Demonstrate.)** Are we ready to play? Let's get started! **[Child's name and child's name]**, when I say go, run to the table and take a cup. Ready, set, go! **(Pause.)** Did you get a heart? **(Pause for answers.)** No? Place your cup to the side and run back so the next friend in line can go. **(Continue until a heart is found.)** Hooray, you found the heart! Shout, **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus! **(With child.)** **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus! That was super fun, let's play again! **(Reset the cups. Repeat as desired.)** You did a great job finding the heart each time. Hearts remind us of love. We can follow Jesus because Jesus loves each and every one of us!”

After the Activity

“In our Bible Story today, Peter made a mistake; he told people he wasn't friends with Jesus. Peter was sad and after Jesus died and came back, Jesus found Peter, forgave him, and gave him a special job to do. Just like we kept going to find the heart, Peter kept going, too. Jesus loves us and forgives us when we make mistakes too. You can follow Jesus and I will follow Jesus. Who can follow Jesus? **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus.”

GROUPS 5/5

Journal and Prayer

MADE TO
↓
Reflect

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Memory Verse Card from Day One in your Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen

Note

You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Lead the children to pretend they're paddling a boat to your Small Group spot.
2. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity

1. Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions.
2. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of people Jesus loves.

After the Activity

Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend we're paddling a boat, like this. **(Demonstrate.)** Come on, everyone! Paddle with me! **(Pretend to paddle as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)** We made it! Now we can sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

During the Activity

(Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.) "In our Bible Story today, Peter told people he was not friends with Jesus. How did Peter feel when he did that? **(Pause.)** Yes, Peter was very sad. Peter knew that saying he was not friends with Jesus was wrong. Do you remember what Jesus did after He died and came back to life? **(Pause.)** Jesus found Peter, Jesus made food for Peter, and Jesus forgave Peter! Jesus forgave Peter, and Jesus will always forgive us, too. Then, Jesus gave Peter an important job to do. He told Peter to tell everyone that Jesus loves them and that everyone can follow Jesus. Who should we follow? Jesus! Should we follow Him every day? Yes! Let's say this together: **[Bottom Line]** I will follow Jesus!

Continue on next the page. ->

GROUPS 5/5

Journal and Prayer



Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Memory Verse Card from Day One in your Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen

Note

You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

"The new Bible verse we're learning helps us to remember that Jesus is so special, and we can follow Him. It says: 'Jesus (**tap finger to middle of each palm**) spoke to the people again. (**point to mouth**) He said (**blink right hand**) "I am the light (**blink left hand**) of the world (**move hands in sunburst**). Anyone who follows me (**walk in place**) will never (**cross hands**) walk in the darkness (**cover eyes**). They will have that (**blink right hand**) light. (**blink left hand**) They will have life.'" John 8:12 (**Open hands like a book.**)

"You did it! (**Clap.**) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (**Open journal.**) Jesus forgave Peter. Forgiveness is loving someone like Jesus and giving them a chance to have a do-over. Do you ever do wrong things? We all do! Jesus loves us no matter what and will always forgive us. Let's make a list of everyone in our group whom Jesus loves. Then we can use the list when we pray. When I say your name, you can use this special pen to write your own name in our journal, or I can write it for you if you prefer." (**It is okay if they can't write their name exactly, just a first letter works too.**)

After the Activity

"This is a very special list. Jesus loves every one of you! (**Hold up the journal.**) Thank you for making it with me. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (**Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.**) Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Thank you that you will always forgive us and love us no matter what. Thank you for loving (**read the names listed in the journal**). We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."