

# Lesson Plan

May 17th, 2026

**This Month's Truth:** I am here to share Jesus

**Bible Story:** The Farmer and the Seed (Matthew 13:1-23)

**Theme Verse:** For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Romans 10:13)

**Teachers rally with your team a few minutes before kids start to arrive:** Rally is a pre-service time for you to be expectant and equipped before the kids start arriving. Go over the lesson and any ideas for the day. Pray over your space and for the kids that will be coming that they will be connected to the person of Jesus.

**Share:** Jesus told a story about a farmer sowing seed on different types of soil. While not all the seeds flourished, the work was worth it for the seeds in the good soil that grew. (Read Matthew 13:23.) Kids will learn today that, while we may not always know others will respond when we share Jesus, sharing Jesus is worth it. He is the One who helps even one seed to grow into a life transformed by grace and hope.

**Pray:** Lead the group in prayer, asking God to give your team wisdom in answering questions about Jesus.

## Pre Service

**Arrival time, please use this time to build relationships with kids and encourage them to build relationships with one another.**

## Service

**What To Do:**

- **Teacher Start 5-minute countdown 5 minutes prior to service start time.**

**Teacher Opener:** Welcome, everyone! My name is \_\_\_\_, and I am so glad you are here today. This month, we are learning that we are here to share Jesus nonstop! That means we keep going and going and going! Give someone a fist bump and say, "Let's go nonstop!" (Let's go nonstop!)

### Go and Grow and Go

#### Game Rules:

1. Direct kids to find someone to challenge. Instruct kids to place one hand behind their backs and choose to hold up two or three fingers. One player chooses to be “odds” and the other player chooses to be “evens.” Players will give a thumbs-up on their other hands (that are not behind their backs) to show their answers are locked in.
2. Count down out loud, “3-2-1! Go!”
3. Instruct kids to bring their hands out from behind their backs and show the number they chose. If the total number of fingers is odd, the “odds” player wins. If the total number is even, the “evens” player wins. The loser now follows behind the winner with both hands on the winner’s shoulders.
4. Direct winners to travel and find other winners to play against. Only winners get to call “odds” or “evens,” but all the kids behind the winners get to participate and play, holding up two or three fingers on the word, “Go!”
5. Continue playing until the final two winners play against each other.

**Leader Tip:** Encourage Small Group Leaders to travel around and help with counting as groups grow larger, ensuring that kids do not change their selections once they are locked in.

**What You Say:** Now it is time for a game where everyone gets to play called “Go and Grow and Go!” Here is how the game will work. You will stand and find a friend. Each of you will hold one hand behind your back. While your hand is behind you, you will choose to display two or three fingers. Once you choose, give a thumbs-up on your other hand to show that your answer is locked in. Let me hear you say, “Locked in!” (Locked in!) When your number is locked in, you will not change. As soon as both of you have locked in, choose one of you to be “odds” and one of you to be “evens.” I will count down and say, “Go!” As soon as I say, “Go,” reveal your hidden hand and number. Count the total number of fingers that are now showing.

Add the two numbers together. If the total number is odd, then the “odds” player wins. If the total number is even, then the “evens” player wins. The loser will now travel around behind the winner, with both hands on the winner’s shoulders. The winners will find new winners to play against in a new round.

But that is not all! Everyone, say, “There is more!” (There is more!) The winners play again, and the winners choose odds or even, but all the people who are lined up behind them also get to play. So now you will add up the total of four people, not just two. With each round, the groups will go and grow bigger and bigger until we have a winner.

So stand up, find a friend, and let's get ready to go and grow and go!

(Lead the game, counting down, "3-2-1! Go!" each round. Announce and celebrate the winner[s] at the end, directing kids to cheer and sit down.)

That game moved fast! And it was fun because you got to share in celebration of whichever winner you were following. When we have something awesome, it is even more awesome to share it. Today we will talk about how we are all here to share Jesus. Let me hear you say, **"I am here to share Jesus!" (I am here to share Jesus!)** When we trust and follow Jesus, we get to share the truth about Him with others nonstop. Everyone, say, "Nonstop!" (Nonstop!)

**Transition Script to go into the Intro Video:** When we talk about going nonstop, I think about a guy named AJ. It seems like AJ has nonstop ideas for incredible inventions! Let's check out AJ presenting one of his inventions to a team of judges at a place called, "The Fishbowl." Count down with me to get our video started. Ready? 3-2-1!

## Play Intro Video

**What You Say:** I agree with Gwen that having something like a "Measureworth" would be super helpful when it comes to deciding if something is worth it or not. We can all know, though, that sharing Jesus is always worth it! Say, **"Sharing Jesus is worth it!" (Sharing Jesus is worth it!)** This is so true because, when we share Jesus, God works through us in amazing ways.

## Worship

**What You Say:** Let's all stand together up front and worship!

**What To Do:**

- Turn lights off
- 2 songs of worship
- **Teachers and Small Group Leaders worship with the kids, modeling what it looks like to give God our praise. Stand in the front of the room, or next to the kids- but not in the back.**
- Dismiss the kids back to their seats when the songs are over

### What To Do:

- Have the kids **open up** a physical Bible and find the Bible story for that day.
- Use the Bibles provided in the classroom if a kid does not have their own Bible with them.

**Transition Script to go into the Bible Story Video:** (Open the Bible to Matthew 13:1-23.) Now we get to hear a story from the Bible. The Bible is God’s true message to us about Himself. Today, our Bible story comes from chapter 13 of a book called Matthew. In this Bible story, Jesus shares a parable. Parables are stories Jesus told to teach about God and His Kingdom. Get our Bible story started by saying, “Nonstop!” (Nonstop!)

## Play Bible Story Video

### Questions to consider asking after the video:

- What is something that you learned about God from the video?
- What is something that you learned about people?
- What can you take away from the video?
  - How can you apply the lesson from today into your life?

**Making The Connection Script:** Jesus taught using parables, like this parable about the farmer and the seed, to teach people important truths about Himself and the kingdom of God. This farmer planted seed in four different places, but only one place grew the seed and produced fruit.

Jesus did not just tell this parable—He explained it! Like the seed landing in different places, different people hear the truth about Jesus and respond in different ways. Some people believe, and some people do not. But that does not mean we only share Jesus when we know for sure someone will believe. Like a farmer spreading seed everywhere, we can share Jesus with everyone. Because God is the One who helps people know and believe in Him, we can know sharing Jesus is always worth it. Say, “Sharing Jesus is worth it!” (Sharing Jesus is worth it!) God works through us when we share Jesus.

### Use the Three Circle Graphics on the Playlist

**(Circle one)** Why doesn’t everyone just hear and believe in Jesus? When God created the world, He created people to know, love, and follow Him. Everything was perfect, and the first two people God created, named Adam and Eve, followed God and had a relationship with Him.

**(Circle two)** But Adam and Eve sinned. Sin is when we choose to do what we think is best rather than following what God says is best. Sin broke the world and broke Adam and Eve's relationship with God. Since then, all people everywhere and for all of time have sinned! When we sin, our hearts are like the rough, rocky, weedy ground in our Bible story. No matter how hard we try, we cannot fix that sin problem and grow in God on our own. Our sin deserves punishment, and we need Someone to rescue us.

**(Circle three)** But there is good news! God loves us, and all people, so much. Ask, "How much?" (How much?) God sent His only Son, Jesus, to take our punishment for sin by dying on a cross and rising again. Now, anyone who turns from sin and follows Jesus can be forgiven for sin. Jesus makes the way for us to have a relationship with God now and forever! We become like the seed grown in good soil. God helps us grow in Him every day.

As we grow in God, we get to share the truth about Jesus with others. When we do, it is like throwing and growing seeds. Some people will be excited to hear about Jesus, but others may not. You might worry that your friends do not want to follow Jesus or they are not interested in hearing about why you follow Jesus. But we can know that when we share the truth about Jesus, it is worth it. Say, **"Sharing Jesus is worth it!" (Sharing Jesus is worth it!)** Some people will hear and not believe, and some people will. We do not know who will believe and who will not, but God does. That is why it is a good thing and worth it for us to share Jesus with everyone that we can! When people trust and follow Jesus, they "bear fruit." These people share Jesus with more people, who share Jesus with more people, who share Jesus with even more people. When we share Jesus, God works through us to help people know and grow in Him.

If you have questions about what it means to follow Jesus, or how to share Jesus, talk with me or a Small Group Leader. We know sharing Jesus with you is worth it.

## Offering

### What To Do:

- Play video explaining offering to kids
- Play offering time video while kids pass the bucket
- Ask a student(s) to come up and pray over the offering

## Theme Verse Review:

### Theme Verse Motions:

For everyone who calls (Bring both hands to your mouth like you are shouting.)

on the name of the Lord (Point up with both hands.)

will be saved. (Cross arms over your chest. Rotate arms out to your side with your fists pointed up.)

Romans 10:13 (Hold both hands out like a book.)

**What You Say:** We have a Theme verse that is all about the truth we can share. Let's learn our Theme verse together! Everyone, stand up!

## Play Theme Verse Video

**What You Say:** This Bible verse points us to the truth that everyone who calls out to God will be saved! This means that when people turn from sin and follow Jesus, He forgives them and rescues them from the punishment of sin. When we share the truth about Jesus with others, they can be saved! So, sharing Jesus is worth it!

## Large Group Closing:

**What You Say:** Today we learned we are here to share Jesus, and that sharing Jesus is worth it. When we talk about Jesus with our friends and family, we never know what kind of seed we are planting and how they might grow—but God does! We can know that sharing Jesus is one of the most important things we can do. God works through us to grow His family. Repeat after me, "I am here to share Jesus." (I am here to share Jesus.) "Sharing Jesus is worth it." (Sharing Jesus is worth it.) Let's pray and talk with God in 3-2-1.

**Closing Prayer:** God, thank You for the truth that sharing Jesus is worth it. Help us to know that anytime we share Jesus, it is worth it because You work through us. Thank You for inviting us to be a part of sharing the good news about Jesus with others. Amen.

**Transition to Small Group Time:** Split the kids into small groups. This can be done either by age, grade, or gender.

## Small Group Time:

### Option #1: Connection Questions

**What To Do:** Circle up and let's discover how sharing Jesus nonstop is worth it!

1. What are some different plants you can think of that grow fruit? What types of things help plants grow? (Allow kids to respond and share your own response.)
2. What can happen when you put an apple seed in the ground? (It can grow into an apple tree and grow more apples.) How can the way an apple seed grows into a tree and produces more apples remind us of what can happen when we share Jesus? (When we share Jesus with others, we can see their faith grow and God's kingdom grow.)
3. The Bible tells us that we are here to share Jesus, and that **sharing Jesus is worth it**. Let's open our Bibles to **Matthew 13:23** and read about it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the verse aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the verse aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the verse so everyone can follow along together.) This Bible verse talks about how the seed sown on the good soil is the person who hears about Jesus and follows Him! How can we "sow seeds" by sharing Jesus, and what makes it worth it? (We can tell others who Jesus is, why He came, how He forgives sin, how He can change their lives, and why we follow Him. When we share, God can work through us to help others believe and grow in Him.)
4. What do you know about Jesus that you can share with others? (Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)
5. The Bible tells us that we are here to share Jesus, and that it is worth it! This happens nonstop around the world every day, and we get to be a part of sharing Jesus with others! What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)

### Option #2: Planting Seeds

**What you say:** Lets get ready to make something amazing! Today we are going to be making seeds that are going to help us share about Jesus! We are going to be planting seeds, let me hear you say "Lets get planting!" (Let's get planting!)

Everyone is going to be getting a paper with seeds on them, your going to write something encouraging on them like Jesus loves you, you are strong, or you are made in God's image.

Now, you can decorate your seed packet with writing our theme this month "**I can share Jesus**" on the front and decorate the rest of it however you'd like.

When everyone is done decorating their seeds and seed packets we can practice with our friends giving them a seed and sharing what is written on the seed and telling them about Jesus.

**Loud and Clear:** This craft shows how we do not always see what is under the surface—but we can know God is doing something amazing. When we share Jesus, we never know what will grow from our conversations—but God does. That is why we can share Jesus with everyone, everywhere! Say, “I am here to share Jesus!” (I am here to share Jesus!)

### **Option #3:** Activity Page

**What To Do:** This activity page helps us remember some big things we have learned about today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

**Leader Tip:** Get to know the kids better. Ask them what they remember about the Bible story or remind them that Jesus told a story about seed to show that even when we do not know what will happen, sharing Jesus is always worth it because God is the one who makes hearts grow.

**Loud And Clear:** When we share Jesus, it is like planting seeds of truth in people’s hearts. People may not always want to hear what we have to say. We may not always see what happens right away. But we can trust that, like the seed on the good soil, God works through us to help people grow. Sharing Jesus is worth it!

## Close out in prayer:

### **What To Do:**

- Ask for any specific prayer requests
- Pray with the group
- Lead the group in the prayer below.

**What You Say:** God, thank You for loving us and sending Jesus so we can be part of Your family. Help us to remember that sharing Jesus is worth it. Even if people may not be ready to listen or ask more about You, help us know that every chance we get to share about You is worth it. Thank You for helping us grow in you and for working through us to help others know You. Amen.

### Dismissal:

**Leader Tip:** Work with your team to dismiss the kids in a fun, manageable, and safe way. As kids leave, make sure they have all of the crafts and papers. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.