

3-6 | August 23

Bible Story: Woman at the Well • *John 4*

Bottom Line: Jesus values everyone.

Monthly Memory Verse: *How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.* • Psalm 139:14 NIV

1. Opening Activity

During the Activity:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five, fist bump, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Tell the kids: "I'm going to describe a person without telling you who they are. Listen carefully and see if you can guess!"
- Read one clue at a time, pausing after each clue to let kids guess before revealing the answer.
- After each person is guessed, ask: "Does Jesus value this person?" Encourage everyone to answer, "Yes!"
- Continue with several different mystery people.

Sample Mystery People:

Teacher

- This person helps you learn new things.
- They spend lots of time helping kids grow.
- You probably see them at school.
- **Answer:** A teacher!

Firefighter

- This person helps keep people safe.
- They wear special gear and drive a big red truck.
- They help during emergencies.
- **Answer:** A firefighter!

Janitor

- This person helps keep buildings clean.
- They sweep, mop, and empty trash cans.
- Without them, things would get very messy!
- **Answer:** A janitor!

Baby

- This person is very small.
- They can't talk very much yet.
- They need lots of help from others.
- **Answer:** A baby!

Farmer

- This person works outside.
- They help grow fruits and vegetables or care for animals.
- They help provide food for many people.
- **Answer:** A farmer!

New Kid at School

- This person may not know many people yet.
- They might feel nervous or shy.
- They're hoping someone will be kind to them.
- **Answer:** A new student!

What You Say:

"Great job guessing all of those different people! Every one of them is different, but they all have something important in common—they matter to Jesus. Sometimes people choose favorites or decide that some people are more important than others. But Jesus doesn't see people that way. In today's Bible Story, we'll hear about someone that many people ignored, but Jesus showed that everyone is valuable. Let's find out what happened!"

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- Encourage everyone to participate by reminding kids there are no silly guesses.
- For younger kids, use fewer clues or make the clues more obvious.
- For older kids, make the clues a little more challenging before revealing the answer.
- If time allows, invite a few kids to think of their own mystery person and give clues for the rest of the group to guess.

2. Video on Jellyfin

Lead the children in worship to one song and then watch today's video lesson.

3. Pray

“Let’s open up today in prayer. Dear God, thank You for making every person different and special. Thank You for the story about the woman at the well that reminds us that You love everyone, no matter what. Help us to see other people the way You see them. Help us to be kind and show Your love, because **[Bottom Line] Jesus values everyone**. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

4. Masterpiece Gallery—Watercolor Story

What You Need:

- ☐ “Watercolor Story” Activity Page
- ☐ Watercolor paper or cardstock
- ☐ Watercolor paints
- ☐ Paintbrushes
- ☐ Plastic cups or bowls
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Paper towels
- ☐ Plastic tablecloth

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print “Watercolor Story” on watercolor paper or cardstock, one per kid.
- Spread out the tablecloth on the table or floor.
- Fill cups/bowls halfway with water, one for every two kids.
- Place the cups/bowls of water on the tablecloth with the paints and paintbrushes.

During the Activity:

- Give each kid a “Watercolor Story” Activity Page and a clipboard.
- Set out the painting supplies.
- As they paint, remind them that Jesus showed the woman at the well that she was valuable to Him.

What You Say:

“Our Bible Story today reminds us that it doesn’t matter where you’re from, what you look like, or what bad choices you’ve made, **[Bottom Line] Jesus values everyone**.

“Every single person is made in the image of God. The same thing is true of every single person you will ever meet—your family, friends, people at school, and in your neighborhood. Our job is to love and value others like Jesus does. No one is beyond God’s reach, and He wants them all to come to know Him. **[Bottom Line] Jesus values everyone**, and He wants us to see everyone as His masterpiece too.”

“Every single person you come across, every single one, is loved by God. Jesus gave His life to rescue them. So show people you value them too! Say ‘hi’ to someone you usually don’t talk to. Use their name. Invite them to sit with you. Stand next to someone who is alone. Those small

choices speak something big, which is, 'You matter.' And they do. They matter so much to Jesus!"

5. Take a Snapshot

What You Need:

- ☐ 2 Balloons
- ☐ Plastic cups – 10 per team

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Inflate balloons and tie a knot in the end, two per Small Group.

During the Activity:

- Divide the kids into teams of 4
- Give each team a stack of 10 plastic cups
- Tell the kids that each plastic cup represents a person.
- Explain the challenge: "Each team will have one player be the 'stacker.' The rest of the team will bop the balloon in the air while the stacker tries to stack as many cups as possible before the balloon hits the ground."
- When the balloon hits the floor, count how many cups they stacked.
- Continue until everyone on your team has had a turn.
- **CHALLENGE:** *Have one person on the team stack AND bop the balloon and see how many cups he/she can stack before the balloon drops to the ground. The rest of the teammates can cheer till it's their turn.*

What You Say:

"That was awesome! It's a great reminder for us. Our goal as followers of Jesus is to make sure everyone is included and everyone is loved, because **[Bottom Line] Jesus values everyone.** It's not about picking and choosing who we are kind to. It's about showing God's love to every single person, because every single person is valuable to Him.

"Jesus valued people beyond what our earthly idea of value is. We value others due to status, titles, what they can do, or what they own. But Jesus assigns heaven's value to everyone. What that means is Jesus saw and sees everyone through the eyes of God's immeasurable love. When we come close to Jesus and follow Him, He can help us assign heaven's value to everyone because we can't do it on our own. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you."

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- *If a kid is anxious about being the center of attention as the "stacker," let them be part of a two-person stacking team.*