

11.1 Small Group Lesson | Preschool



Let's Draw It

Jesus Loves the Children

BIG IDEA: Jesus loves me so, so much.
BIBLE BASIS: Mark 10:13-16
KEY VERSE: "Just as the Father has loved me, I have loved you."
John 15:9

☆ PLAY TIME ACTIVITY

Along with your other play time activities, present the following activity to children as they first arrive in the preschool room. Choose a leader to facilitate the activity. The activity is designed to introduce kids to the Bible story and Big Idea for the day.

YOU'RE TOO LITTLE

Supplies: Tape (1 roll), Post-It® Notes (1 per child), markers (3–4)

Preparation: Put a horizontal line of tape on a wall about six feet off the ground.

Directions: Give each child a Post-It® Note and have them write their name on it. Tell them to jump and stick it to the wall as high up as they can. Challenge them to stick their note above the tape on the wall. (They shouldn't be able to.) When the children are finished, point out that no one got their Post-It® Note over the line, but announce whose note was the highest.

Say: No one got their Post-It® Note over the line. That's because you're all too little. In today's true Bible story, the disciples told some children that they were too little to be with Jesus. During our story time, we're going to find out if Jesus agreed.

Question: What do you think? Are kids too little to spend time with Jesus?

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

After the large group story time is over, help the children transition into the small group activity time. There are multiple activity options designed to help kids remember the Bible story and Big Idea, discover personal application, and respond to God through art, prayer, and Bible reading. Offer as many activities as your time and space allows.

Commented [D1]:

UNIT AND LESSON

At the top of the document there's a number 11.1, the 11 stands for the unit number and the number after the decimal is the lesson number. So this particular lesson is from unit 11 and it is the first lesson.

UNDERSTANDING THE TITLES

The large title 'Let's Draw It' is the unit title and the subtitle 'Jesus Loves the Children' is the specific title for this week's lesson.

Commented [D2]:

BIG IDEA

The Big Idea is main take-home message we want the children to know and understand.

When teaching or playing activities we want to repeatedly go over the Big Idea.

BIBLE BASIS

These specific verses are the foundation of the curriculum for this lesson. Parents and teachers can review these verses to help understand and teach the children.

KEY VERSE

Also known as the memory verse.

Commented [D3]:

PLAY TIME ACTIVITY

This is the very first activity that is available for the class. This activity is optional for the children as the toys are all available at this time.

Play time activity lasts around 10-15 minutes to help get the wiggles out from being in worship and to help build relationships with children and ministry team.

Commented [D4]:

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

The teacher is able to choose any of the following activities to have as an optional activity for the children to do along with the other toys available in the classroom.

11.1 Small Group Lesson | Preschool



BALLOON BOP (Application Activity)

Supplies: Inflated balloon (1 per group)

Say: In today's true Bible story, we learned that you're never too little to spend time with Jesus. We can spend time with Jesus by praying, singing songs, reading the Bible, or drawing praise pictures for Him. We're going to play a game that helps us think about our favorite way to spend time with Jesus.

Directions: Direct the children to stand up. Toss the balloon above the children and have them continually bop it in the air while singing the first verse of "Jesus Loves Me." (See lyrics below.) If the balloon drops to the ground, pick it up and continue to bop it in the air. When the song is finished, tell the children to catch the balloon. Ask each child who catches the balloon what their favorite way to spend time with Jesus is. Be prepared to remind them of the different ways. If the child has already caught the balloon in a previous round, have them hand it to a child who has not caught the balloon. Continue playing until everyone has had a turn sharing.

Jesus Loves Me:

Jesus loves me, this I know.
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong.
They are weak, but He is strong.

TOSS ACROSS

Supplies: Stuffed animal or ball (1 per group)

Directions: Sit with the children in a circle. Toss the stuffed animal to a child across the circle while saying, "Jesus loves [name of child] so, so much." Have that child pass the stuffed animal to another child while repeating the phrase with the receiving child's name inserted. Continue tossing the stuffed animal until every child has received it. Play additional rounds. For each round, use a different fun voice while saying the phrase. (See list below.)

Voices:

- Mouse
- Robot
- Silly
- Dinosaur

Say: You're never too little for Jesus to love you. Whether you're short or tall, big or small, **Jesus loves you so, so much!**

Question: If you could spend a day with Jesus, what would you do with Him?

HOT LAVA (Bible Memorization Activity)

Supplies: Tape (1 roll)

Preparation: Create a tape line on the floor in a zig-zag pattern. The line should be about 10 feet long.

11.1 Small Group Lesson | Preschool



Today's Bible verse:

"Just as the Father (*point up with both hands*) has loved me (*hug yourself*), I (*point to yourself with both thumbs*) have loved (*hug yourself again*) you (*point to children*)." John 15:9 (*extend hands like you're holding a book*).

Directions: Practice the verse together until the children can remember it. When ready, tell the children to pretend like the floor is hot lava and the only safe passage across is on the tape line. Challenge the children to walk the line one at a time while reciting the verse aloud. If they step off of the line, they must begin again. After all of the children complete one trip across the hot lava, play additional rounds using different methods for crossing the lava, such as walking backwards or hopping on one foot.

LET'S DRAW IT (Bible Story Review Activity)

Supplies: Butcher block paper (1 large sheet), markers or crayons

Directions: Give the children markers or crayons and have them gather around a large piece of butcher block paper. Ask the children, "What happened first in the today's Bible story?" Allow the children to answer. Then, tell the children to draw that part of the story. They can each create their own drawings on the paper. When finished, ask the children what happened next in the story. Then, just like before, have them draw that part of the story. As the story unfolds, so will the drawings. When finished, consider hanging the butcher block paper on the wall for the children to see.