

WEEK THREE – MARCH 2025 – TODDLERS

Bible Story: Catching Fish | Matthew 4:18; Luke 5:1-7

Bottom Line: Jesus can do anything

Memory Verse: "And the power of the Lord was with Jesus." – Luke 5:17

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever

Series Overview: One common phrase we hear children repeat is, "Watch this!" They want us to watch their spins and cartwheels, their dance routines, and what their toys can do. It's fun to pretend to be amazed and say, "Wow," no matter what it is. This month, we are teaching our preschoolers to watch the One who can do anything. The One who has shown that the power of the Lord is with Him. Who is this One? Jesus, of course! Yes, this month is all about Jesus and how Jesus can do anything!

LARGE GROUP

Story Time

Gather children at the tables to tell the story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

What You Need: Preschool Bible; Butcher paper; washable markers

What You Say:

"Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible (hold up the Bible) begins with Jesus. (Draw a simple stick-person Jesus.) Jesus was teaching by the water in front of a big crowd (draw lots of stick people or just faces) when more (draw more stick people or just faces) and more people (draw even more stick people or just faces) came to hear Him.

"Jesus saw some fishermen named Peter and Andrew on their boat, and Jesus asked to get in. (Draw a simple boat with three stick people.) Jesus continued teaching the crowd from the boat, and when Jesus was done teaching, he looked at Peter and said: 'Let's go fishing!' Peter told Jesus that he and Andrew had been fishing all night but hadn't caught anything. (Draw empty net next to the boat.) Jesus told Peter to put his fishing net down into the water. Then, Jesus did something only He has the power to do! (Draw a few fish in the net.) At first, there was a fish! Then there was another fish, and another, and another! Then, there were TONS and TONS of fish! (Draw lots and lots of fish in the net.) Wow! Jesus filled their net with so many fish that they almost broke! That's a lot of fish! [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything!"

SMALL GROUP

Craft Time

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

What You Need: "With Jesus" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, glue sticks, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

What You Do:

- Help children rub glue on the back of the picture of just Peter and Andrew in the boat and glue it to the left side of the paper.
- Rub glue on the back of the picture of Peter and Andrew with Jesus and glue it to the right side of their paper.
 - o Clean hands as needed.

What You Say:

"We have two story pictures we need to glue to your paper. This is a picture of Peter and Andrew in their boat, and there aren't any fish in their net. Help me rub glue on the back of your picture, and press it on this side of your paper. (Pause.) Great! Now let's do the same to your other picture. (Pause.) This is a picture after Jesus filled their net with fish! There were so many fish that their net almost broke! Only Jesus could fill their net with that many fish because [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything!"