

# WEEK FIVE – 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!

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# 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, "Game It" Activity Page, colored cardstock, butcher paper, washable markers, and scissors

## 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! Jesus was teaching by the water in front of a big crowd when more and more people came to hear Him.

"Jesus saw some fishermen named Peter and Andrew on their boat, and Jesus asked to get it in it! 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 they hadn't caught anything. See, our net is empty! (Hold up the empty net.) Jesus told Peter to throw his fishing net out into the water, (put the "net" down in front of the children) and Jesus did something only He has the power to do. Jesus filled the net with fish! Wow!

"I have some fish for you—see if you can toss one into the net. (Give each child a fish and wait for them to toss them.) Whoa! Good job! Try to toss another. (Give each child another fish and wait for them to toss them.) The net is getting full, but we have one more fish to toss in. (Give each child the last fish and wait for them to toss them.) Wow! We had fun tossing these fish in, but only Jesus filled nets with so many fish they almost broke! **[Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything!"** 

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## **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:** Jesus Filled the Net" Activity Page; cardstock; jumbo craft sticks; dot markers, crayons, or washable ink pads; glue sticks; baby wipes, and a permanent marker

#### What You Do:

- Encourage children to color in the fish in the net.
- Clean hands as needed.
- Turn each child's paper over, and rub the glue stick over each end.
- Position the end of the craft stick along one glued edge and press down.
- Fold the paper over and press the edge along the craft stick.

### What You Say:

"Your paper is a great, big net filled with fish! Can you color the fish in the net? (Pause.) Super! Now let's put your net on a handle. (Glue the edges and press the craft stick on and attach to both sides. Hold up.) Look, it's a net filled with fish! Jesus filled Peter and Andrew's nets with tons and tons of fish—that's something only Jesus can do! [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything."