

WEEK TWO – JUNE 2025 – PRESCHOOL

Bible Story: *Love In Peace* | *Matt. 5:9; Acts 9:26-28, 31; Romans 12:18*

Key Question: Who shows you how to love others? **Bottom Line:** Jesus shows me how to love others.

Memory Verse: "Think and act as Jesus did." – Philippians 2:5, NIrV

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever

Series Overview: What do you do when you don't know how to do something? Do you pick up your phone and do a quick search? Or do you find someone who knows how to do it and just ask them, "Hey, can you show me how to do this?" We all need people to show us how to do things, and when it comes to how to love others, well, there's only One who can truly show us how—Jesus! This month, we are going to discover how to live it out and love like Jesus. No matter how young or old you are, we all need Jesus to show us how to love others. Together, let's point preschoolers to the One who came to show them how to do the most important thing: loving others the way Jesus loves them.

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 - 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Opening Small Group Activity

Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

What You Need: Play-Doh®

What You Do:

- Give each child some Play-Doh and ask them to make the different faces you call out.
- Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

- BEFORE THE ACTIVITY
 - o "Friends, come sit with me at the table."
- DURING THE ACTIVITY
 - o "Can you show me your happy face? (*Pause*.) Oh, so good! Okay, now show me your scared face! (*Pause*.) Oh wow, you guys look so scared! Let's use our Play-Doh and make different faces. Show me with the Play-Doh how you make a happy face. (*Pause*.) Whoa! Great happy faces! Okay, now make a scared face with the Play-Doh. (*Pause*.) Eek! Very scary! What other faces can we make? (*Pause for answers*.) Make a sad face. (*Pause*.) What about an excited face? (*Continue with different faces*.) Awesome job, friends! You are so creative!"

• AFTER THE ACTIVITY

o "In today's Bible Story, we are going to hear about a time when some people were scared, but a man named Barnabas helped them be happy again! Let's go hear all about it."

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 - 11:50 - LARGE GROUP

Story Focus: Barnabas Makes Peace

0 50 40 40 44 50 40 40 CREATE CROSS

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 – SMALL GROUP

Circle of Peace

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

Move: an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: "Circle of Peace" Activity Page, cardstock, painter's tape, hole punch, scissors, and yarn

What You Do:

- Make a large square on the floor with the painter's tape.
- Tape the picture of the afraid disciples in the square.
- Make a large circle (or triangle) on the floor several feet from the square with the painter's tape.
- Tape the picture of Paul in the circle.
- Ask children to stand inside the square.
- Wear the Barnabas necklace and stand between the square and the circle.
- As you review the Bible Story, move one child at a time from the square to the circle.
- Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

- BEFORE THE ACTIVITY
 - o "Hey, friends! I need everyone to come stand inside this big square!"
- DURING THE ACTIVITY

- o "Look at this picture on the floor. Do the people in the picture look happy? (Pause.) No, they don't look happy. Do they look afraid? (Pause.) Yes! They look afraid! These are Jesus' friends, the disciples. The disciples were afraid when they heard that Paul wanted to come see them. They did not know that Paul had met Jesus and that changed Paul.
- o "Barnabas (point to your necklace) knew that Paul loved Jesus. Barnabas wanted to help his friends live in peace with one another, so he went and told them, 'Hey, [child's name], Paul loves Jesus now, and he wants to be your friend!' (Walk that child to the circle. Then, go back to the square.) 'Hey, [child's name], Paul loves Jesus now, and he wants to be your friend!' (Repeat until all of the children are in the circle.)
- o "Now look at the picture on the floor. That's Paul. Does Paul look sad? (Pause.) No, Paul doesn't look sad. Does Paul look happy? (Pause.) Yes! Paul was happy because Barnabas helped him live in peace with the other disciples and be friends so they could love Jesus together!" (Repeat as long as time and interest allow.)

• AFTER THE ACTIVITY

o "Barnabas loved Jesus, so he wanted to help his friends live in peace with one another. Who do you think showed Barnabas how to love others? Yes, Jesus showed Barnabas how to love others, and Jesus shows us how to love others too! Who shows you how to love others? [Bottom Line] Jesus shows me how to love others!"

Barnabas in the Middle [Live for God | Application Activity]

Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft

What You Need: "Barnabas in the Middle" and "Barnabas" Activity Pages, cardstock, heart stamps, washable ink pads, glue sticks, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

What You Do:

- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Encourage children to glue Barnabas in between the disciples and Paul while you review the Bible Story.
- Ask children to add heart stamps all over their paper.
 - o Clean hands as needed.
- Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

- BEFORE THE ACTIVITY
 - o "Come sit down at the table with me, and let's make a story picture."
- DURING THE ACTIVITY
 - "Look at your picture and tell me what you see. (Pause for answers.) That's right! The disciples are on one side of your paper, and look, Paul is on the other side. Paul wanted to be friends with the disciples, but they were scared because Paul used to be mean to people who followed Jesus. They thought Paul had come to be mean to them, and they did not want to be friends with Paul. But Paul had met Jesus and that changed Paul. Now, Paul loved Jesus and wanted to love others too.
 - o (Hold up the picture of Barnabas.) "Glue your picture of Barnabas right there in the middle of the disciples and Paul. Barnabas knew that Paul had changed and loved Jesus. So, Barnabas told everyone that Paul had changed and loved Jesus now. Paul was even teaching other people to love Jesus too. The disciples weren't afraid of Paul anymore. Barnabas loved like Jesus and helped make peace with everyone. Add heart stamps all over your paper. (Pause.) Now they could be friends and love like Jesus together!"

• AFTER THE ACTIVITY

"Barnabas loved like Jesus and made peace between the disciples and Paul. Jesus shows us how to love others so we can make peace and love others like Jesus too. Who shows you how to love others?
[Bottom Line] Jesus shows me how to love others."