



WEEK ONE – JUNE 2025 – TODDLERS

Bible Story: *Jesus Feeds 5000 | Matthew 14:14-21; Philippians 2:4*

Bottom Line: *Jesus shows you how to love others*

Memory Verse: *“Think and act as Jesus did.” – Philippians 2:5, NIV*

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.

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

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 and His friends, the disciples. Jesus had been helping a lot of people all day. It had been a long day, and it was time to eat.

“Jesus told His disciples they could help the people by giving them food to eat, but they only had five loaves of bread and two fish. That wasn’t enough food to feed 5,000 people. Jesus thanked God for the food, then gave it to the disciples to give to the people. Everyone ate until their tummies were full. Jesus helped the people because He loved them. Jesus showed the disciples how to love others by helping. You can love others by helping too. **[Bottom Line] Jesus shows you how to love others.**”

SMALL GROUP

Memory Verse With Motions

[Hear From God | Memory Verse Review]

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Say the memory verse and teach the motions to the children
- Repeat the verse with the motions and invite the children to do it with you.
- Repeat several times.
- Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Friends, come stand with me, and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. ‘Think (*point to head*) and act (*walk in place*) as Jesus did,” (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) Philippians 2:5.” (*Open hands like a book.*)
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Now, let’s learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: ‘Think.’ (*Point to head.*) Put your pointer finger up in the air, then gently touch the side of your forehead like this, (*touch temple with fingertip*) and say: ‘Think.’ (*Repeat with children.*) Great job!
 - “The next part of our verse says: ‘And act.’ (*Walk in place.*) Move your legs like you are walking, but stay right where you are like this, (*walk in place*) and say: ‘And act.’ (*Repeat with children.*) Wonderful! Now, let’s put that together. ‘Think (*point to head*) and act.’ (*Walk in place.*) Great job!

- “The next part of our verse says: ‘As Jesus did.’ (*Tap finger to middle of each palm.*) Put one hand out straight in front of you with your palm up, like this, (*extend one arm in front of you, palm up*) and touch the center of your palm with the middle finger of the opposite hand. Then, switch hands, put the other hand straight in front of you, and tap the center of that palm with the middle finger of the opposite hand like this, (*tap middle finger in the center of the outstretched palm, then repeat with the other hand*) and say: ‘As Jesus did.’ (*Repeat with children.*) Super-duper! Now, let’s put that together. ‘Think (*point to head*) and act (*walk in place*) as Jesus did.’ (*Tap finger to middle of each palm.*) Great job!
- “Now the last part is: ‘Philippians 2:5.’ (*Open hands like a book.*) Put your hands together in front of you, open them like you are opening a book, (*open hands like a book*) and say: Philippians 2:5. (*Repeat with children.*) Great job! I think we are ready to do it all together! Ready, friends? ‘Think (*point to head*) and act (*walk in place*) as Jesus did,’ (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) Philippians 2:5. (*Open hands like a book.*) Nice job. Let’s do it again!” (*Repeat several times.*)
- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**
 - “The Bible teaches us to “think and act” like Jesus, and **[Bottom Line]** **Jesus shows me how to love others. Who shows you how to love others? [Bottom Line] Jesus shows me how to love others.”**

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: “Stamped Fish and Bread” Activity Page; cardstock; blue and brown washable ink pads; small, round sponge; baby wipes; and a permanent marker

What You Do:

- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Help children cover their whole hand with blue ink (for one of the fish) and press it on their paper, leaving room for the second hand.
- Cover child's hand again and press it on their paper (for the other fish).
Clean hands.
- Help children press the round sponge into the brown ink pad (for one loaf of bread) and press on their paper.
 - Repeat four more times (for the other four loaves of bread).
- Clean hands as needed.

What You Say:

“Jesus fed lots and lots of people with only two fish and five loaves of bread. Let's make a story picture, using your hand to make a fish print. Let me help you cover your hand with the blue ink pad (cover child's entire hand), and we'll press it on your paper. (Pause.) Super! Let's do it again. (Cover child's hand again with ink from the blue ink pad and press it on their paper near the first one.) There are the two fish! Now, we need to make the bread. Press the sponge on the brown ink pad, and then press the sponge on your paper one, (pause) two, (pause) three, (pause) four, (pause) five times! (Pause.) Great! (Clean hands as needed.)

*“Jesus helped the people because He loved them. Helping is one way Jesus showed us how to love others. **[Bottom Line] Jesus shows you how to love others.**”*