



PRESCHOOL

WEEK 3- STARTER



Activity Name: Grow, Grow, Grow

What You Need: none needed

What You Say:

Come over here and sit in a circle on the floor with me. Let's be little seeds hiding in the dirt. Crouch down small like this. **(Demonstrate.)** Great job! Little seeds need water to grow. Here comes the water. **(Walk around to each child and pretend to pour the water on them.)** Water, water, water! And little seeds need sunshine to grow, too. Here comes the sunshine. **(Put arms up over your head in a circle and walk to each child.)** Shine, shine, shine. Now grow, grow, grow to be a tall, tall, tall tree! **(Encourage kids to stand up and raise arms up high slowly. Demonstrate.)** Great job!

What You Do:

- Gather kids together.
- Encourage kids to crouch down like a tiny seed in the ground.
- The leader will pretend to water the seeds, then pretend to shine like the sun over the kids.
- Encourage them to slowly grow up tall like a tree. Repeat several times as time allows.

Today in our Bible Story, we are going to learn about a man named Zacchaeus. He climbed a tree to see Jesus because he wanted to know more about Him. Let's go hear more about Zacchaeus and how Jesus cared about him. Let's go hear the story!

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



PRESCHOOL WEEK 3- SMALL GROUP



Activity Name: Story Box

What You Need: Story picture cards pocket dice (or tape pictures into a cube)

What You Say:

Jesus told Zacchaeus that He came to help people who are lost and hurting and to rescue them. Jesus did not just come to help people who do the right thing all the time because all of us do wrong things sometimes. Jesus came to help people who are sick and hurting and do wrong things, like Zacchaeus.

Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone, no matter what.

Look at this cool story box! Now let's roll the box and retell today's true Bible Story with each picture. Everyone will have a turn to roll the dice and tell us a part of the story.

Zacchaeus with the mad people: Zacchaeus was a tax collector, and no one liked tax collectors! They took money from people to give to the rulers in charge and to pay themselves. Zacchaeus had taken so much money that he was rich!

Jesus: One day, Zacchaeus heard Jesus was coming to Jericho. Zacchaeus had heard that Jesus loves everyone, but Zacchaeus had never seen Jesus. So he went to see Jesus for himself. But when Zacchaeus got close, a big crowd of people blocked his way. They were all trying to see Jesus, too!

Zacchaeus in the tree: Zacchaeus couldn't see Jesus through the crowd, he was too short. So Zacchaeus climbed up a fig tree!

Jesus next to Zacchaeus in the tree: Zacchaeus could see Jesus coming closer and closer until He got to the tree. Jesus stopped, looked right up at Zacchaeus, and said, "Come down, and let's go to your house." Zacchaeus was amazed and excited. He scrambled out of the tree and invited Jesus to come to his home right away.

Jesus and Zacchaeus near Zacchaeus' house: Other people saw this. They knew Zacchaeus had done wrong things, and they did not think Jesus should go to Zacchaeus' house. But Jesus loves and cares for everyone—no matter what!

Jesus and the people in the heart outline: Jesus knew that Zacchaeus had taken too much money from people, but Jesus still loved him. Zacchaeus was changed that day, and he gave back more money than he had taken.

What You Do:

- Allow each kid to have a turn tossing the dice.
- Encourage each kid to retell that part of the story,
- Help as needed. Encourage other kids to help too.