



PRESCHOOL

WEEK 5- STARTER



Activity Name: Jesus Cares, Jesus Cares

What You Need: None needed

What You Say:

Sit in a circle with me and let's play a game! I'm going to walk around and tap you on your head. I will say: 'Jesus cares, Jesus cares, Jesus cares about . . .' and if I touch your head and say your name, we will hold hands and walk around the circle together until you come back to your spot!

What You Do:

- Gather kids to sit in a circle.
- Explain that to play the game, instead of saying "Duck, Duck, Goose," children will walk around on the outside of the circle and say: "Jesus cares (*touch a child's head*), Jesus cares (*touch a child's head*), Jesus cares about [child's name] (*touch child's head*)!"
- You and that child will hold hands and run around the outside of the circle until the child is back at their spot. Continue until everyone has had a chance to run around the circle.

What You Say:

Jesus cares about each one of us so much! Today, we are going to hear a story about how much Jesus loves us, even if we make bad choices. Let's go hear the story!

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



PRESCHOOL

WEEK 5- SMALL GROUP



Activity Name: Matthew's Dinner

What You Need: Picture of Jesus and Matthew at dinner Place setting coloring page
 coloring supplies

What You Say:

Jesus asked Matthew to come with Him and be a close friend! And Matthew got up right away and left his tax booth behind. He went home and prepared a festive meal for Jesus. **(Hold up picture)** Matthew was so excited that he even invited other tax collectors and friends so that they could meet Jesus too! Jesus and the disciples sat down to eat with Matthew and all of Matthew's friends. It was a big party, and all of Matthew's friends got to spend time with Jesus. Jesus loved Matthew and his friends, even though they had done wrong things. Jesus loves us, too, no matter what. He will never stop caring for us! **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**

Matthew invited a bunch of his friends to come have dinner with Jesus. What do you think Matthew prepared for dinner? (allow kids to answer) Those foods sound great! Let's pretend we were at the dinner. Draw your favorite food onto your plate.

What You Do:

- Give each kid a place setting coloring page.
- Talk about the foods the children think Matthew may have prepared for dinner with Jesus and his friends. (Pita-style bread which is flat; small, salted fish or dried fish. Olives, figs, dates, grapes, pomegranates) and cheese.
- Talk about the foods the kids like to eat
- Encourage kids to draw pictures of the foods.