

WEEK
FOUR
JANUARY 2021

SMALL GROUP

YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus' miracles are amazing.

CATCHING FISH

LUKE 5:1-10

MEMORY VERSE

"Everyone who heard him was amazed." LUKE 2:47, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is amazing?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is amazing.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15 MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. Let's Go Fishing Fill it Up Creating Fish

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"He Is Amazing" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.

Swim Fill the Net In the Net Dot Fish

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home Parent Cue Card (*print or email*) Parent Cue App



SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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

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1. LET'S GO FISHING

WHAT YOU NEED: Fishing sets and kiddie pool, blue sheet, or blue butcher paper

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Set out the kiddie pool, sheet, or paper and the fishing sets. Prepare the fishing sets if

making them yourself.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Go fish! Repeat as long as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how the people in our story today went fishing.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, let's go fishing!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Grab a fishing pole and let's fish! (*Pause.*) This is a catch and release pond. Once you catch one, throw it back in. That was so fun!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear a story about some fishermen and a time they went fishing with a really special person."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by swimming like fish.



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MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

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2. FILL IT UP

WHAT YOU NEED: Butcher paper, marker, and large pompoms

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the butcher paper on a table or the floor in the activity area. Draw three large circles on the paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Show the children that the circles are empty. Ask the children to fill up the circles by placing the pom poms inside them. Continue the activity until all of the circles are full.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! We have circles on our paper. Oh, no! These circles are EMPTY."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Can you help me fill all of our circles with these cool pom poms? (*Pause and do activity.*) YAY! That is so much better. Our EMPTY circles are now our FULL circles!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear a story from the Bible that will tell us how Jesus did something AMAZING and made something that was EMPTY, FULL!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to carry a basket that is FULL of something.



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3. CREATING FISH

WHAT YOU NEED: Play-Doh® and fish cookie cutters

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Give each child some Play-Doh.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to make fish with the Play-Doh and cookie cutters.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Yay! It's Play-Doh time!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to make fish out of Play-Doh today! Use the cutters (hold up) and press them into the dough. (Demonstrate.) Look, a fish!" (Do activity.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job! We'll hear a Bible story about fish today! I bet something AMAZING happens! I am so excited!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by swimming like a fish as you walk to the story area.



2 YEAR -OLDS

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



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1. SWIM

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW] WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Have the children stand in front of you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to swim like fish all around the room. Say the memory verse with the children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's be fish just like the ones in our Bible story today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Use your arms as fins, and let's all be fish. Swim around! (*Do activity.*) You are amazing fish! Jesus did something amazing in our Bible story today. He filled the nets FULL of fish! WOW! Let's say our memory verse about how AMAZING Jesus is!" (*Finish activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our memory verse tells us that Jesus is amazing! Who is amazing? Jesus is amazing!"



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2. FILL THE NET

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Fish" Activity Pages, colorful cardstock, scissors, and a bag; Optional small plastic toy fish

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Fish" Activity Page and cut apart, at least two fish per child. Option: use toy fish instead of "Fish" Activity Page.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children around you as you hold the bag. Give each child two fish to hold. Point out that the bag is empty as you review the Bible story. Then, encourage the children to fill the bag with their fish, just like Jesus filled the nets with real fish in the Bible story.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how **Jesus is amazing** because He can do things that no one else can do!

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come stand with me. I have something to show you. First, you need to hold these fish. Keep them very still until I tell you what to do with them." (*Give each child two fish.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look inside this bag. (*Turn it upside down.*) It's empty. There's nothing in it. Just like the fishermen's net in our Bible story today. They didn't catch any fish. Then Jesus got in the boat. Jesus told Peter to throw his fishing net back in the water. When Peter pulled his net in, it was so full of fish that he needed help! Now, put your fish in the bag. We need to fill the bag with fish just like Jesus filled the net with fish." (*Pour the fish out of the bag and do the activity again. Repeat the activity as long as time and attention allow.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus filled the fishermen's net with SO many fish that they almost sank two boats! Wow! Jesus is amazing! Who is amazing? Jesus is amazing!"



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3. IN THE NET

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Foam fish and a hula hoop or floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place the hula hoop in the middle of the activity area. If using floor tape, tape a circle

in the middle of the activity area. This will be your net. Spread all of the fish around the circle in the activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Challenge the children to pick up the fish and place them in the net.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Say the Bottom Line with the children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "There are fish everywhere!" (Point.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "There is a net. (*Point.*) Let's catch the fish and put them all in the net!" (*Do activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Way to go! You are great fishermen. Jesus made an empty net FULL of fish. He is amazing. Let's say that together! Jesus is amazing! Who is amazing? Jesus is amazing!"



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home

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4. DOT FISH

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Fish Parent Note" Activity Page, cardstock, organza gift bags, foam fish, dot markers, marker, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Fish Parent Note" on cardstock and cut apart, one per child. Put the dot markers and fish on the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to use the dot markers to color the fish on "Fish Parent Note." Give children a bag and have them add fish to the bag. Write child's name on their Parent Note.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we heard another amazing story about Jesus. This story was about catching fish."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Do you see all the fish on your paper? (*Pause.*) Put a dot on each of the fish. (*Pause.*) Now, take a bag and fill it with the fish like the nets in our story. (*Pause.*) Super! You can take these home and retell the story."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story, a fisherman named Peter had been out fishing all night and didn't catch anything. When he got back to shore, Jesus asked to get on his boat to finish teaching the crowd about God. When Jesus finished teaching, He wanted to go fishing. Peter cast his nets, and they caught so many fish that their nets started breaking! They even had to get another boat. They had two boats full of fish. Everyone was amazed. No one but the out-of-this-world amazing Jesus could do that! Who is amazing? Jesus is amazing."



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PRELUDE

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HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as your 2-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room while another teacher greets parents and children at the door. At this age not all children will participate, but most will want to be part of the fun.

1. LET'S GO FISHING

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Fishing sets
- Kiddie pool, blue sheet, or blue paper

2. FILL IT UP

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Butcher Paper
- Marker
- Large pom poms

WHAT YOU DO:

• Draw three circles on the butcher paper.

3. CREATING FISH

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Play-Doh®
- Fish cookie cutters

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities after the Bible Story. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room. At this age, not all children will participate, but most will want to be part of the fun.

1. SWIM

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

• No supplies needed.

2. FILL THE NET

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Fish" Activity Page
- Colorful cardstock
- Scissors
- Bag
- Optional toy plastic fish instead of "Fish" Activity Page

3. IN THE NET

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Hula hoop or floor tape
- Foam Fish



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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

WHAT YOU DO:

• Place hula hoop in center of activity area or tape a circle in center of activity area.

4. DOT FISH

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Fish Parent Note" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Organza gift bags
- Foam fish
- Dot markers
- Marker
- Scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

• Copy "Fish Parent Note" on cardstock and cut apart, one per child.

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card
- Copy "Going Home" and hang on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue app.**

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

• Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. https://bit.ly/FirstLookPinterest