

WEEK 1 - January 2020 - PRESCHOOL

Bible Story Focus: Jesus can do anything.

Water to Wine • John 2:1-11

Memory Verse: "With God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26, NIV

Key Question: Who can do anything? **Bottom Line:** Jesus can do anything.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Make it Fun

Activities to help kids transition into the classroom and set up the bible story.

-Read? Set? Table!

Make it True

Captivate kids with a bible story and help them understand how it connects to their world.

-Large group time

Make it Stick

Activities and crafts that help kids personalize the story and apply the truths to their life.

- -Memory Verse with Motions
- -Parachute Party
- -Straw Flip
- -Journal and prayer

9:10-9:25 | 10:40-10:55 | 12:10-12:25 - MAKE IT FUN

1. Ready? Set? Table!

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

What You Need: Any assortment of tableware: plastic spoons, plates, and cups; napkins; play food; and a bucket or bin, tablecloth

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place all the tableware items in the bucket/bin a few feet from the table.

During the Activity: Line up the children. Encourage them to take the items from the bucket/bin, one or two friends at a time, and walk them to the table to set it for dinner. Check their work, congratulate them on a job well done, and ask them to return all items to the bucket/bin so the next friend in line can have a turn.

After the Activity: Collect all items in the bucket/bin and set aside.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Do you help your mom or dad set the table for dinner? All of the items in this bucket belong on the table! Let's take turns one or two friend(s) at a time. You will grab the items from the bucket, walk to the table, and then set the table for dinner! When you've finished, raise your hand so we can clap for you! Then you'll need to gather all the items and bring them back so that the next friend can have a turn."

After the Activity: "Great table setting, friends! Sometimes we set the table for special occasions or parties. In our Bible story today, we'll hear all about a big party with a very special guest. I can't wait!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by continuing to pretend to set the table. Call out each item to place on the table: placemat, plate, napkin, fork, spoon, knife, cup, bowl, etc.

9:25-9:45 | 10:55-11:15 | 12:25-12:45 - MAKE IT TRUE

Large Group Overview:

Story Focus: Jesus can do anything. Preschoolers will hear about the time Jesus saved a wedding celebration by turning water into wine, or what we like to call super fancy party drink. John, one of Jesus' disciples, said Jesus just told the people what to do. One minute there were jars of water and the next there were jars of wine.

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 MAKE IT STICK

1. Memory Verse with Motions

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

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say the memory verse and do the following motions in front of the children. With God (point both hands up) all things (spread your arms out in a moving circle in front of your body) are possible (two thumbs up), Matthew 19:26. (Open your hands like a book.)

During the Activity: Say the verse again with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I am going to say our new memory verse. Everyone, watch me! With God (point both hands up) all things (spread your arms out in a moving circle in front of your body) are possible (two thumbs up), Matthew 19:26." (Open your hands like a book.)

During the Activity: "Now let's do it all together! Are you ready? With God (point both hands up) all things (spread your arms out in a moving circle in front of your body) are possible (two thumbs up), Matthew 19:26." (Open your hands like a book.)

After the Activity: "Our Memory Verse tells us that [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything! Who can do anything? [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything!"

2. Parachute Party!

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: A parachute and beach balls

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Lay the parachute on the floor in your activity area. Place the balls next to the parachute.

During the Activity: Have the children spread out around the edge of the parachute, bend down, and grab it with both hands. Encourage the children to lift it to waist high and then begin shaking the parachute. Once the parachute is in motion, begin to toss the beach balls (one at a time) onto the parachute. Encourage children to shake the parachute, being careful to keep the beach balls on its surface.

After the Activity: Call for the children to stop and carefully set the parachute on the floor. Gather the balls and move off to the side.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's all gather around the parachute. Come with me, friends. Let's wave the parachute together and celebrate! Jesus saved the party!"

After the Activity: "Jesus saved the party that day. Everyone was SO happy. But we shouldn't be surprised, because [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything. Tell me: Who can do anything? [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything."

3. Straw Flip

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: "Jars" Activity Page, cardstock, red crayons, blue crayons, scissors, double-sided tape, smoothie straws (one per child), and clear tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the Activity Page onto the cardstock and cut on the dotted lines (one per child). Be sure not to cut the jars apart.

During the Activity: Have the child color one of the jars red and the other jar blue. Fold the paper between the jars. Use the double-sided tape to tape the jars around the straw. Use the tape to secure the open side of the jars.

After the Activity: Hold the straw in your hands and rub them together to make the jars spin from water to party drink.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We heard an amazing Bible story today! Jesus can do anything!"

During the Activity: "Jesus turned plain water into a super fancy party drink! We are going to make a cool craft today about our Bible story. First, we have to make the water and the party drink. Color one jar blue for the water and the other jar red for the super fancy party drink. (Do activity.) Now we will tape the jars to a straw." (Finish activity.)

After the Activity: "Hold the straw between your hands. (Demonstrate.) Rub your hands together (demonstrate) and look what happens! The water turns to a super fancy party drink, just like in our story! You can use our craft to tell your family all about how [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything! Who can do anything? [Bottom Line] Jesus can do anything!"

4. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

What You Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 19:26, NIV. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each small group.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time. Let's pretend we are swimming at the beach while we walk to our Small Group spot. Put on your sunscreen!

(Pretend to put on sunscreen.)

"Now let's swim to our spot!

(Pretend to swim as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

"We made it! That was a good swim! Now let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!

(Open the Bible and lay it open in front of the children.)

"Our Bible story today was about something Jesus did that only He can do. What did Jesus do in our story that only He can do?

(Pause for response.)

"Great memory! Yes! Jesus turned water into super fancy party drink! How did Jesus turn water into super fancy party drink?

"Well, let's look at the Bible verse we are learning and see what it says.

(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

"With God all things are possible, Matthew 19:26.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

"Let's stand up and say that verse together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN and SGL: "With God (point both hands up) all things (spread your arms out in a moving circle in front of your body) are possible (two thumbs up), Matthew 19:26." (Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "Ahh . . . I get it! Since with God all things are possible, and Jesus is God's Son, that means *[Bottom Line]* Jesus can do anything! That's how Jesus turned the water into super fancy party drink!

"So, when I ask you, 'Who can do anything?' I want you to say, [Bottom Line] 'Jesus can do anything!' Let's try that! Who can do anything?"

CHILDREN and SGL: [Bottom Line] "Jesus can do anything!"

SGL: "Again! Who can do anything?"

CHILDREN and SGL: [Bottom Line] "Jesus can do anything!"

SGL: "You sound awesome!

(Give each child a high five.)

"Okay, let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"Today we are going to make a list of our favorite drinks. When I say your name, tell me what your favorite drink is. Chocolate milk? Orange juice? Water? Lemonade? Whatever you like!

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"Ooo, this list makes me thirsty! Let's thank God for Jesus and that He can do anything. Jesus can even turn water into our favorite drinks! Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: "Dear God, we know that with You all things are possible. And because Jesus is Your Son, Jesus really can do anything! He can even turn water into our favorite drinks like *(read the list the children made)*. You are SO amazing, God, and we praise You for Your love and power and for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."