

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



WALK THE LINE

WHAT YOU NEED: Floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Tape three lines about a foot apart on the floor in your activity area. These lines should each be a different design, for example: straight, curvy, and

zig-zag.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to walk on each line. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hey, friends! Do you see the tape on the floor (*point*)? I see a straight line, a curvy line, and a zig-zag line (*or other designs used*). Let's walk on the lines together!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job, friends. It's so much fun to walk in different places! Today in our Bible story, we'll hear about someone who walked in a different place, too. I can't wait to find out where!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by walking in different ways to the story area, for example: giant steps, baby steps, frog jumps, etc.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus shows us we can trust God.

PETER WALKS ON WATER
MATTHEW 14:22-33

MEMORY VERSE

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart."

PROVERBS 3:5, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can trust God?

BOTTOM LINE

I can trust God.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

MADE TO MOVE

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



LIMBO

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Pool noodle or wrapping paper tube
Optional: Fun, preschool music

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Have two adults or teen

helpers stand facing each other and hold the noodle or

tube between them. This will be your limbo stick. Have them hold the stick at preschooler height.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to walk in a line under the stick. After the last child has walked under the stick, ask the helpers to lower it a few inches. Repeat the activity several times, lowering the stick each time. Challenge the children to walk under the stick anyway that they can. They can bend backwards, crawl, or slither like a snake if needed.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's see who can walk under the stick!" (*Point.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Do activity.*) "That was pretty easy! Let's do it again. This time, let's make the stick lower. (*Continue the activity.*) Nice job! Let's try again with it even lower!" (*Finish activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, you have some great moves! You did a great job walking under the stick, no matter how low it got. Yay! Today in our Bible story, Jesus helped Peter walk on water. That is AMAZING! Jesus shows us how we can trust God. Tell me, **who can trust God? I can trust God!**"

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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



FINGER PUPPET PETER

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Finger Puppet Peter" and "Finger Puppet Peter Label" Activity Pages; cardstock; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; paper plates; blue tissue paper; utility knife; scissors; glue sticks; and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Finger Puppet Peter" on cardstock and cut out, one per child. Cut out the two finger holes for each puppet. Copy "Finger Puppet Peter Label" on label paper, one per child. Write child's name on the back of their plate.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children tear pieces of tissue paper and glue to their plate. Add the label. Show children how to slip their fingers through the holes and make Peter walk across the water.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "What a great story we learned about Peter walking on water. Let's make a finger puppet Peter to help us tell the story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "The first thing we need to do is make the water. Tear up the tissue paper and glue it to your plate. (Pause.) Nice job! Now add your label to the water. (Pause.) Pick up your Peter puppet. See the two holes at the bottom? (Pause.) Put these two fingers (*hold up pointer and middle finger*) into the holes to give Peter legs. (Pause.) Walk Peter across the water. (Pause.) Awesome!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we heard another story about how God loves us and is always with us. It started when Peter and some of the other disciples were in a boat out in the water. They saw someone walking toward them, and they were afraid! They had never seen anyone walk on water before! The person told them not to be afraid, that He was Jesus. Peter wasn't so sure.

"HE told the person to call him out on the water if He was really Jesus. Well, Jesus called him out on the water. Peter stepped out of the boat and walked on water, too! But Peter heard the wind and it scared him. He was afraid he would sink. But Jesus grabbed his hand, and they got in the boat together. Jesus showed Peter and the disciples that we can trust God, even when things are scary. **Who can trust God? I can trust God.**"

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Proverbs 3:5, journal, and fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to jump and splash in water puddles while we walk to our small group spot. Follow me, and let's

jump in puddles! (*Jump all the way to your small group spot. Say, "splash" each time you jump as you lead the children.*)

"We made it! 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 in front of the children.*)

"Our Bible story, today, was about a man named Peter. He made a splash when he walked to Jesus on water. Jesus told Peter to walk to Him to show Peter that he can trust God. But when Peter stopped trusting, he started sinking!

"The Bible verse we're learning will help us remember to trust God, no matter what. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*)

"'Trust in the Lord with all your heart,' Proverbs 3:5. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Stand up with me, and let's say that Bible verse together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'Trust in the Lord (*point up*) with all (*arms out wide*) your heart,' (*hands over heart*) Proverbs 3:5." (*Open hands like a book.*)

(*Repeat the verse with motions a few times.*)

SGL: "Great job! (*Give each child a fist bump.*) God wants us to trust Him with all of our heart. So tell me, **who can trust God?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "**I can trust God!"**

SGL: "Say it in a whisper this time. **Who can trust God?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "**I can trust God!"**

SGL: "Yes, you can! Let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*)

"Today, we'll make a list of our favorite shoes. It can be running shoes, ballet shoes, rainboots, flip flops, or sparkly shoes—whatever shoes you want. You

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(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

can even say that barefoot or 'no shoes' are your favorite shoes!

"So, think about it. When I say your name, tell me your favorite shoes, and I will write them in our prayer journal. Get ready and listen for your name!

(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.)

"I wonder what kind of shoes Peter had on when he walked on water to Jesus. Hmm. It doesn't matter what shoes you wear, as long as you trust God with all your heart! Right? *(Pause.)* Right! Let's pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

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

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to show us that we can trust You. Jesus did so many amazing things that only He can do to show us that You sent Him and You have the power to do anything. Help us remember that no matter where we walk in our *(name the shoes listed)* shoes, we can trust You with all our hearts. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."