

3-5 YEAR OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning



READING WITH TEDDY

WHAT YOU NEED: Books, several teddy bears, blankets, and pillows

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Set out the books, teddy bears, blankets, and pillows in your reading area or activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Invite the children to cuddle up and read to the teddy bears. Point out how calm and peaceful it is to sit and read.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Enlist the children's help in returning the books to the shelves and folding up the blankets. Put away the pillows, blankets, and teddy bears for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, I've added a few friends to our reading area. What's new? (*Pause.*) Yes, we have some soft teddy bears. Let's read to our plush friends."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "It's so calm and peaceful to sit and read with our friends, isn't it? Hug your teddy bear as you read."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "It's so peaceful to sit here and read with you. Today, we'll hear how Jesus can help us choose peace."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by walking like a soft teddy bear.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose peace.

ABIGAIL INTERVENES
1 SAMUEL 25:1-35

MEMORY VERSE

"I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."

PHILIPPIANS 4:13, NLT

KEY QUESTION

Who can help you do everything?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can help me do everything.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose peace.

ABIGAIL INTERVENES
1 SAMUEL 25:1-35

MEMORY VERSE

"I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."

PHILIPPIANS 4:13, NLT

KEY QUESTION

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FREEZE DANCE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Monthly song "Making Waves" and music player

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children in your activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Play the music and encourage the children to dance. When you stop the music, children must freeze in place and repeat the Bottom Line together. Continue, stopping and restarting the music as time and interest allows.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, gather here with me. Spread out so you have plenty of room! I will play our monthly song while you dance, dance, dance! When the music stops, I want you to freeze where you are. Then we'll say **Jesus can help me do everything.** Ready? Here we go!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Whew, dancing can make you tired! You have some awesome dance moves. Tell me, who can help you do everything? Jesus can help me do everything!"



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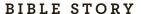
GROUPS

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



Jesus can help me choose peace.

ABIGAIL INTERVENES
1 SAMUEL 25:1-35

MEMORY VERSE

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RAIN STICK

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Rain Stick Label" Activity Page; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; paper towel tubes; dry rice; cotton balls; small paper cups; aluminum foil; colorful duct tape; craft tape; stickers; scissors; and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Rain Stick Label" on label paper, one per child. Cut aluminum foil into four-inch squares, two per child. Cover one end of each tube with aluminum foil and secure with duct tape. Fill cups with rice.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to pour a cup of rice into their tube and add a few cotton balls. Leader wraps and tapes the other end. Have children decorate their rain sticks with craft tape and stickers. Write each child's name on their rain stick. Play with the rain sticks and listen to the sounds they make.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we heard a Bible story about choosing peace. Abigail chose peace and Jesus can help us choose peace, too. Sometimes soothing sounds can help us choose peace, so today we're going to make a rain stick."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "To make a rain stick, you need a tube like this. (Hold up a tube.) Then you put something inside that can move and make noise as it goes back and forth. We'll use this dry rice. (Hold up a cup of rice.) Take a cup of rice and pour it into your tube. (Pause.) Did you hear the sound it made as you poured it in? (Pause.) Now to change the sound a little, add a few cotton balls. (Pause.) Awesome! I'll close this end, then you can decorate it. (Pause.) Use the tape and stickers to cover the tube. (Pause.) Stick your label on. (Pause.) Now listen as you slowly tilt your rain stick back and forth. (Pause.) What a peaceful sound."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story, we heard how David and his army helped Nabal and his wife, Abigail. They had A LOT of sheep. There were too many sheep for Nabal and his workers to protect so David and his army helped. As payment for their help, David asked for some food for him and his army and Nabal said no! This made David so angry that he and his army were going to fight Nabal! But Abigail knew this was wrong, so she found a way to choose peace. She chose the right thing and fed David and his men. This made David choose peace, too, and not fight Nabal. Abigail chose peace and Jesus can help us choose peace, too. Jesus can help us do everything. Who can help you do everything? Jesus can help me do everything."



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose peace.

ABIGAIL INTERVENES
1 SAMUEL 25:1-35

MEMORY VERSE

"I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."

PHILIPPIANS 4:13, NLT

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JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Philippians 4:13; journal; and a fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to carry bread to David, just like

Abigail did. Pick up your bread like this (pretend to hold a large loaf of bread with two hands) and follow me! (Pretend to hold a large loaf of bread as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

"Here we are! You can lay your pretend bread down 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.)

"In today's Bible story, Abigail chose peace and saved a lot of people from a big fight. We learned that we can choose peace, too, because Jesus can help us do everything. Who can help you do everything?"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus can help me do everything!"

sgl: "He sure can! And the Bible verse we have been learning will help us remember that Jesus can help us do everything. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength,' Philippians 4:13. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Remember, Christ is another name for Jesus. This verse is teaching us that Jesus can help us do everything! Let's stand up and say those words together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "I can (thumbs to chest) do everything (march) through Christ (point up), who gives me strength,' (muscle arms) Philippians 4:13." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "I love hearing you say that Bible verse! Good job! (Give two thumbs-up.)

"Now 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 ways we can choose peace. Then when we pray, we can ask God to help us remember to choose peace. (Say each child's name as you write it down. Write what they say beside their names. Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)





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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"This is a really great list. Let's pray. Would anyone like to pray before I do?"

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

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to give us peace and help us choose peace. Please help us look for ways to choose peace when people are angry or frustrated or even afraid. You are the best, God, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name, amen."