

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION 15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me show God's goodness.

> CITY ON A HILL MATTHEW 5:14-16

MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.'"

JOHN 14:6, NIV

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.



WORSHIP

SHINE A LIGHT

WHAT YOU NEED: "Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, and Kindness Cards" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, wall tape, and a flashlight

WHAT YOU DO:

NOTE: Young children can be afraid of the dark, so be mindful of this when dimming the lights in the room. If any

child seems fearful, continue the activity but leave the lights on.

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, and Kindness Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one set per group. Tape the cards to the wall about a foot apart in your activity area at preschooler eye level.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children to sit in front of the wall with the cards. If possible, dim the lights in your classroom. Turn on the flashlight and shine it on one of the cards. Allow the children to identify the symbol and talk about what it represents.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: If dimmed, turn the lights back on. Turn the flashlight off, gather cards, and set aside for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come have a seat with me! I will shine a light on some pictures we've seen this summer. Let's see if we can remember them!

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (Shine the light on the Love card.) "What is this? Yes, it's a heart! It reminds us that Jesus can help us choose love.

(Shine the light on the Joy card.) "What is this? Yes, a smiley face! It reminds us that Jesus can help us choose joy!

(Shine the light on the Peace card.) "What is this? Yes, it's a teddy bear to hug! He's so soft and fluffy and reminds me of being calm and peaceful. Jesus can help us choose peace.

(Shine the light on the Patience card.) "What is this? Yes, a clock! A clock reminds us that Jesus can help us choose patience.

(Shine the light on the Kindness card.) "What is this? Yes, two hands holding a heart. This picture reminds us that Jesus can help us choose kindness."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear a story about how we can be a shining light that shows everyone that God is good! I can't wait!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by calling out different ways to walk and move: hop, skip, march, baby steps, giant steps, etc.



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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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FOLLOW THE LIGHT

WHAT YOU NEED: Headlamp (or a super bright flashlight)

WHAT YOU DO:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Place the headlamp on your head. Move your head so that the light moves and encourage the children to follow it. Stop at several different

places and encourage the children to run to the light when it stops. Each time the light stops say the Bottom Line with the children. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY: BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's follow the light!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I have a light on my head. I will move the light around the room with my head. I want you to follow the light! When the light stops, I want everyone to run to the light! (*Do the activity.*) Nice job! **Who can help you do everything? Jesus can help me do everything!** Let's do it again!" (*Repeat the activity as time and interest allows.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was awesome! Our Bible story tells us that Jesus can help us be a shining light that shows everyone that God is good! Tell me, 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 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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SHINE BRIGHT

WHAT YOU NEED: "Shine Bright Parent Note" Activity Page, cardstock, clear plastic punch cups, yellow tissue paper, battery-operated tealights, glue sticks, scissors, a hot glue gun, and a permanent marker

NOTE: If possible, use the glue gun before children arrive then store it out of reach. Please be aware that the batteries in the candles can cause serious health issues if swallowed. Exercise caution and never leave children unsupervised with the candles.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Shine Bright Parent Note" on cardstock and cut apart, one per child. Cut tissue paper into 2" x 3" strips, five or six per child. Put a drop of hot glue over the battery compartment on the bottom of each candle to prevent a child from opening it. Write child's name on the bottom of their cup.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to rub the glue stick all over the outside of their cup. Lay the tissue paper strips on the cup, starting at the bottom and with any extra length sticking over the top. Add more glue as needed. Turn the lights on and have the children place the candles in their cups. Talk about how the cup glows with the lit candle inside. **AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! What a great story we heard today! Jesus wants us to be shining lights that show everyone that God is good! Let's make a light to help us remember to shine bright."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Take your cup and rub the glue stick all over the outside of the cup. (*Pause.*) Great! Now add the strips of yellow tissue paper like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Keep going all around your cup until the sides are covered. (*Pause.*) Awesome! In our story, Jesus said that when we show God's goodness to others, it's like we are shining a light that shows everyone God is good. (*Turn on one light.*) We show others that God is good when we choose goodness by helping, sharing, or saying kind words. But when we are mean, don't share, or don't help, Jesus said it's like we are covering up our light. (*Cover light by putting hand in front of the candle.*) Jesus said, 'Let your light shine!' (*Turn on all of the candles and give to the children.*) Put the candle in your cup. (*Pause.*) Look how your lights shine! (*Pause.*) Great job, friends."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus wants us to be like a shining light that shows everyone that God is good. And Jesus will help us show God's goodness to others. Jesus can help us do everything. Who can help you do everything? Jesus can help me do everything."



PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP

STORY

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

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JOURNAL AND PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at John 14:6; journal; and a fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll hold up one finger like this (*demonstrate holding a pointer finger up like a candle*) and pretend it's a

candle. Get your candles ready and follow me! (Pretend your finger is a candle as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

"Okay everyone, blow out your candle so we can sit down and talk about today's Bible story. (*Pretend to blow out your candle*.) Yay! One, two, three, sit down with me! (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children*.)

"In today's Bible story, we learned that when we do things like help others, say kind words, and share what we have, we are like a shining light that shows God's goodness to the world. And when Jesus is our friend forever, He can help us show God's goodness because Jesus can help us do everything. **Who can** help you do everything?"

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

SGL: "The Bible verse we are learning will help us remember that Jesus has the power to help us do everything. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life,"' John 14:6. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"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: "'Jesus answered, (hands by mouth) "I am (point up) the way and the truth and the life,"' (march) John 14:6." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "Wow! You sound fantastic! (*Give two thumbs-up.*) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and funshaped pen.*)

"Today, we'll make a list of things we can share because sharing is one way we can show God's goodness. So, tell me, what is one thing you can share? (Say each child's name as you write it down. Write down what they say beside their names. Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)



(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"These are all wonderful things we can share! 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 sharing Your Son, Jesus, with us so He can be our friend forever and help us do everything. We want to share with others, too, so everyone can see Your goodness. Help [child's name] share [what child listed]. Help [... (*continue with each child*). We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."