



WEEK 5

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE

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THE BIG IDEA

The message of Jesus is powerful.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Helps a Suffering Man:
Mark 1:21-28

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC** | YouTube Praise
- ACTIVITY** | Spot the Difference
- ACTIVITY** | Color Milk Explosion

DISCUSSION TIME

- SNACK** | Emoji Eggos
- ACTIVITY** | InstaStories
- ACTIVITY** | Powerful Polls
- MEMORY VERSE** | John 14:6 (NIV)

TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE** | Mark 1:21-28
- THE BIG IDEA** | The message of Jesus is powerful.
- VIDEO** | Subscribe Now, Episode 5
- ACTIVITY** | DM Story
- PRAYER**

PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- ACTIVITY** | Powerful Balloons
- ACTIVITY** | Batteries Required



WEEK 5

HACKS FOR TODDLERS

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BY TIFFANY THENOR

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Spot the Difference

This activity might not work well with younger kids. Instead, invite the kids to take photos using pretend cameras or instant film Polaroid cameras.

ACTIVITY | DM Story

An alternative activity for younger kids would be to use pre-recorded video direct messages of volunteers telling about various miracles Jesus performed. Print Instagram photographs that represent those same miracles. Have the kids match the video with the printed photograph. (e.g., The miracle with the five loaves of bread and two fish can be shared through video direct message and then a photograph.)

ACTIVITY | InstaStories

As a group, read aloud a selected Christian short story and involve all of the kids in the reenactment and retelling for the video. One option is to invite the kids to gather around as the story is being read, and repeat various parts of the story or perform different motions to help with the retelling of the story.



WEEK 5

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

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THE BIG IDEA

The message of Jesus is powerful.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Helps a Suffering Man:
Mark 1:21-28

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | YouTube Praise

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play the song, "[Super Wonderful](#)," and invite kids to sing and dance along!

ACTIVITY | Spot the Difference

- The social media platform, Instagram, made a big difference in the social media world by giving people a way to connect through pictures.
- Instagram is so popular, one billion people use it!
- Let's take a moment to look at some fun photos and spot the difference!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Divide the kids into two groups. Each team will select a player to come up and try to spot the difference faster than the other team in [this video](#) by Riddle Master. The first to spot the difference wins a point. The team with the most points wins!
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** This activity might not work well with younger kids. Instead, invite the kids to take photos using pretend cameras or instant film Polaroid cameras.

ACTIVITY | Color Milk Explosion

- For this activity, we are going to make a colorful and powerful milk explosion!
- **INSTRUCTION:** Pour milk into a dish. Let it settle for a moment. Scatter some drops of food coloring into the milk. Use a Q-tip or pipette to add a drop of dish soap to the center of the dish and watch what happens. If there are any kids with a dairy allergy, use dairy-free milk.
- Sometimes, we don't know what something or someone is able to do until we try out different things.

- Today's story is going to tell us about something Jesus was able to do that a lot of people didn't know about!

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | Mark 1:21-28

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Invite two kids to volunteer to help you act out the story. One kid plays the disruptive man, and the other kid plays Jesus. As you are telling the story, instruct the kids to act out what you are saying. Use props for fun.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Use puppets or felt illustrations to tell this story to the younger kids. While kids are listening and watching to the retelling of this story, skip the questions and stick to the script to tell the short story.
- Today's Bible story tells us that Jesus was not like any other teacher in the whole world. Jesus was very wise, but he also had the power to heal people and other amazing things.
- One day, Jesus was teaching to a group of people when a man came into where they all were and started making a whole bunch of noise and chaos. He started yelling things at Jesus and making quite a scene!
 - **Everyone, stomp your feet and shout as loudly as you can!** That was a big ruckus you all made!
 - **Have you ever been watching a good show and then a sibling, pet, or another person made loud noises or got in your way and distracted you?**
- Sometimes, people disrupt you but don't really mean to. As for the man who interrupted Jesus, he was not well. He was hurting really badly on the inside that it was making him loud and mean on the outside. So, Jesus shouted, "Be quiet! Come out of him!"
- Then, all of a sudden, the man began to shake and then he stopped suddenly. Whatever was bothering him on the inside went away! The man was healed and happy!
- Everyone who was there was like, "Wow!" They just could not believe Jesus had the power to do that!
- After that, more people knew about Jesus because everyone was talking about how powerful he was!

THE BIG IDEA | The message of Jesus is powerful.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Like previous weeks, select a kid to come and push a giant button that says, "Subscribe now" on the stage or wall. Announce the Big Idea after the kid pushes the button. When sharing the Big Idea, use these hand motions: **The message** (Cup your hands to your mouth) **of Jesus** (Using both arms, form a cross) **is powerful** (Make fists and flex both arms).
- Thanks for subscribing to this week's Big Idea!
- **The message of Jesus is powerful.**

VIDEO | Subscribe Now, Episode 5

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's preschool [teaching video](#).

ACTIVITY | DM Story

- Did you know that there used to be a time when if you wanted to send a message, you would have to write a letter and get it delivered? It would take a very long time! But these days, there are many ways to send messages and they are all super fast!
- One of the ways people on social media send messages is through direct messages, or DMs. DMs can be a photo, a video, or words.
- Imagine you were in the crowd when Jesus helped that man in today's story. Let's say you wanted to send a DM to a friend or family member. **What would you say?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Divide the kids into small groups and assign a leader with a smart phone to each group. Have the leaders help kids react to today's story by recording a quick message to a friend or family member. Have the leaders text or email you these videos then share these videos with the group by connecting it to a larger screen and mirroring your display.*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Have different volunteers pre-record video DMs, telling about various miracles Jesus performed. Take screenshots of Instagram photos that represent the miracles in those DMs and make them available on a tablet, phone, or computer. Have the kids match the video with the screenshot (e.g., Video DM of a volunteer saying "You won't believe it! Jesus just fed a bunch of people using only five loaves of bread and two fish! Then have them scroll through your photos to find the instagram photo of the bread and fish).*
- Everyone in those times knew who Jesus was because people kept talking about Jesus and everything he was doing. **The message of Jesus is powerful!**

PRAYER

- Dear God, Thank you for giving us a powerful message. I pray that your powerful message will travel to the people I know and love and to everywhere on Earth, so that everyone will know how much you love them. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME**SNACK | Emoji Eggos**

- Sometimes we can send messages using just one image – an emoji! Let's make our own emoji messages!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Prepare toaster waffles (1 per kid) along with bowls of fixings (e.g., sliced bananas, sliced strawberries, blueberries, chocolate chips) and spoons. Give each kid a plate with their waffle on it. Show kids the different emoji faces from the printable provided, and help them arrange the different fixings to make the face they choose!*
- **What is your favorite emoji? Why do you like that one?**

ACTIVITY | InstaStories

- Did you know even kids can help spread the good and powerful news of Jesus? You don't have to wait until you're grown up to do it!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Divide the kids into small groups, and tell each group to pick out a short story from among a collection you provide of Christian picture books, Bible stories for kids, other stories with positive messages. Ask a volunteer or adult to work with each group to read the story aloud or have the kids reenact them. Record it, upload it, and send a private link to the parents to view or post them on the church's social media outlets (with parent permission).*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACKS:** *Invite the kids to gather around as the story is being read, and repeat various parts of the story or perform different motions to help with the retelling of the story.*

ACTIVITY | Powerful Polls

- Does anyone know what a poll is? A poll is where you ask a group of people a question, and they get to answer it. Once everyone answers, you get to see how many people chose each answer. The answer with the most responses wins!
- Let's do our own poll in here! Stand up if you like broccoli, or sit down if you don't. Hop around if you prefer pizza, or twirl around if you prefer spaghetti.
- Now, let's create a poll to hear what other people think about a topic you are interested in.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Ask the kids for a list of questions they can ask adults for yes or no answers (e.g., Do you like broccoli?). Using the church's social media platform or by posting your poll on large poster board and placing it in a central location at your church, pose the question(s) your kids are asking and collect responses from your church community.*

MEMORY VERSE | John 14:6 (NIV)

- Let's check to see how good your guessing skills are. Can you help me figure out which of these words comes next in our memory verse?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print or prepare PowerPoint slides using the printable provided. Ask the kids to complete each clause from the memory verse by selecting the correct predictive text.*

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Provide this week's coloring page and some crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story and Big Idea as the kids color.*

ACTIVITY | Powerful Balloons

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid an inflated balloon. Prepare a tray of paper that's cut up into tiny pieces. Have kids rub their balloon on their clothes (to "charge" it) and then place it near the tray of paper. Let kids have fun picking up the pieces of paper using the static from their balloons.

ACTIVITY | Batteries Required

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Bring in some toys that run on batteries. Remove the batteries beforehand and hand the toys to the kids. Ask: "Why doesn't it work?" Once kids correctly respond that it doesn't have batteries, insert the batteries for them and allow them to play with each toy.
- These toys didn't work at first because it didn't have batteries . . . it didn't have power.
- We can tell others about Jesus and everything he has done because we do have power! **The message of Jesus is powerful.**

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.