

## WEEK 2 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



### THE BIG IDEA

We can hear God's voice if we listen.

### THE BIBLE

**Jesus is Baptized:**  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

## WELCOME TIME

### MUSIC | Praise Gallery

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs you like best, but here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
  - "Every Move I Make" (CJ and Friends)
  - "Guess What" (Kidspring)
  - "God Loves Me Specially" (Orange Music)
  - "You Change Me" (People of the Earth)
  - "Dive In" (Kidspring)

### ACTIVITY | Name that Animal

- Hello, everyone! It's another great day to spend a day at a museum!
- Today, we're visiting an sea life museum, also known as an aquarium. You're actually in the aquarium right now!
- **Do you know what kind of animals live at an aquarium?** Dolphins, seals, fish, and sharks . . . oh my!
- **What is your favorite sea animal to see?**
- It's so cool to walk around and see all of the different kinds of sea animals. In fact, we just entered the animal exhibit!
- Let's see how many of these animals you can name!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using a [pop-up tent](#), [streamers](#), and [ocean animal cut-outs](#), create an [aquarium](#) that preschoolers can walk through and sit in. Tape the streamers to the outside perimeter of the tent and also from the inside of the tent. Alternatively, you can hang streamers in a doorway or along a wall. Hang the ocean animal cut-outs in the tent in various locations with string or fishing wire. Point out the different animals one by one to the preschoolers, and see if they can name them. Play ocean-themed songs to add to the vibe (e.g., “Under the Sea” from *The Little Mermaid*, “Beyond the Sea” from *Finding Nemo*, “We Know the Way” from *Moana*, etc.).
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Instead of asking toddlers to name the animals, hold the animal pictures up and tell them what they are.
- Today we’ll be exploring another way we can use our senses to experience God.

### ACTIVITY | Sea Mammal Sounds

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the [“Baby Shark” song](#) ready to play and do the hand motions together (or pretend to swim around the room). Then, lead into the game using the [“Sea Mammals and their Sounds” video](#).
- One thing I absolutely love about the aquarium is all the awesome and crazy sounds you hear from the water and the animals.
- **Have you ever heard a shark sing?** [Play “Baby Shark.”]
- Okay, maybe sharks don’t sing that song . . . because sharks don’t sing. **Who’s ready to hear some real ocean animal sounds?**
- We are going to learn the sounds that some sea mammals make, so let’s put on our listening ears and see how many of them we know! [Play “Sea Mammal Sounds.”]
- Today’s Bible story is all about listening to something very important. Show me which part of your body you use to listen!

## TEACHING TIME

### BIBLE STORY | Jesus is Baptized

- Hey, there! What an exciting day it’s been at the aquarium! I just love being your tour guide.
- We’re about to head into the Bible story exhibit. Last week’s special feature included John the Baptist telling us how he helped people get ready to see and experience God through Jesus. This week, we’ll get to hear about John’s amazing encounter with Jesus! Let’s step into the exhibit with John as our tour guide again!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For today’s story from Luke 3:15–17, 21–22, hang up a long blue sheet or bulletin board paper by the ends, so that it’s about waist level. Dress up as John the Baptist like last week, or ask another leader to help, and stand behind the paper, like you’re in the water. Optional: Read the corresponding parts of “Heaven Breaks Through” from the [Jesus Storybook Bible](#).
- Hi everyone, it’s me, John! Do you remember me?
  - In case you forgot, I was the one who was telling everyone about Jesus.
  - Would you believe that some people thought I was the Savior God had promised?

- It's probably because I would baptize people in the river, like this one right here. Going in the water showed you were willing to give up your old way of life, and when you came back up out of the water, you were showing you were ready for a new life with God! *[Ask a volunteer to come up and demonstrate by standing behind the sheet or paper and bending down to be "under water."]*
- Anyway, one day I was doing the usual — baptizing people in the Jordan River. The sound of water splashing and the joyful shouts from the people getting baptized surrounded me!
- But, nothing could prepare me for what I was about to see and hear next.
- Jesus himself came to the river! I was so excited! This is the person I was telling everyone about!
  - **Can you guess what Jesus did when he came to the river?**
  - He asked *me* to baptize *him*!
  - That made no sense. Jesus was the Savior. He was more powerful and so much more important than I was. But Jesus asked, so I did it.
- Do you know what happened next?
  - The skies became brighter than ever – so bright we could barely look up! And God's Spirit came down and it looked like a dove. It was such a special moment. But that's not all.
- Perk up your listening ears because you won't want to miss this next part. The Bible tells us this:
  - "And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'" *(Luke 3:22b, NIV)*
- I, and all those around Jesus, actually got to hear God's voice as God spoke to Jesus! If I could have listened to God speak those words over and over again, I would have! This was definitely a day to remember.

### BIG IDEA | We can hear God's voice if we listen.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Invite a volunteer to open the art tube and pull out the Big Idea butcher paper. Unroll and lay the paper on the floor. Let kids come up and paint the entire paper with watercolor paint to reveal the Big Idea. Since today's lesson emphasizes hearing, try emphasizing the words "hear," "God's," and "listen" as you say the Big Idea. As you practice the Big Idea with the kids covering their ears, you might want to have fun with saying it using different tones, volumes, and silly voices.*
- Let's practice saying the Big Idea. Cover your ears with your hands, and repeat the Big Idea after me exactly how I say it. You'll have to listen extra well!
- You did it! You heard and repeated what I was saying and how I was saying it because you were listening very carefully. In the same way, **we can hear God's voice if we listen.**

### VIDEO | A Day at the Museum, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).*

### ACTIVITY | Big Bluetooth Sea

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Invite preschoolers to sit in a circle while they pass a small bluetooth speaker around that's playing a song (the volume should be so low that you can only hear if your ear is close to the speaker). Each kid should listen for five seconds. Count with your fingers, and once you get to five, signal that they should pass it to the next person.*

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Instead of playing this version of telephone, ask toddlers to whisper the big idea for the whole room. Invite the class to listen while each toddler takes their turn.*

- **Who remembers what they heard?**
- Sometimes it's hard to listen to God's voice because we lose focus. That's okay, we can ask God to say it to us again.
- And you all heard different parts but it was sthe same song, right? God says different things to all of us, but they are all God's voice!
- God speaks to us through our family, friends, church leaders, and other people who love us. That's why **we can hear God's voice if we listen** to the right people!

### PRAYER

- Dear God, we know we can hear your voice if we listen. Thank you for speaking to us! Help us to know where your voice is coming from by listening to the people who care about us. Amen.

## DISCUSSION TIME

### SNACK | Noisy Nom Nom

- Put your listening ears on! Today we're using our sense of hearing to explore how noisy different foods are when we chew them.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Gather five or so snack items with varying degrees of softness and crunchiness, such as: apple slices, pear slices, marshmallows, carrot sticks, celery, graham crackers, cereal, crackers, croutons, pretzels, chips. Place your selections on a plate, one plate for each preschooler. As always, check with your families about allergies.*
- Look at the snacks on your plate. **Which snacks do you think will be the loudest while you eat?** Put them in order of loudest to quietest and then let's eat!
- Wow! That was a tasty snack! Did you guess right? **What was your noisiest snack?** Just like we heard the crunch of our tasty treats, **we can hear God's voice if we listen.**

### ACTIVITY | From the Gift Shop

- In today's story, God looked down at Jesus from heaven and spoke loving and kind words to Jesus.
- **Do you remember what God said to Jesus?** (*Read Luke 3:22b.*) Many people got to hear God's words.
- When God speaks to us, we can share them with others. When we are told that we are loved and special, we can tell others that, too, so that they can hear God's voice through us!
- Today we are going to make special cards of encouragement to share with our friends and family.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a printable, and after they are done coloring them and decorating them with stickers, help them decide who they will give each card to.*
- **We can hear God's voice if we listen,** and God wants us to share God's voice with others.

### ACTIVITY | Pressed Penny Souvenir

- It's time for our gift shop pit stop! Today, we are going to design our own pressed penny souvenir.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a printable, black markers, and penny-colored crayons or pastels. You might want to have pictures of pressed pennies available (or bring in your own collection) for kids to see if they've never seen one before.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** For toddlers, pre-print the Big Idea on the oval template.
- You can display your penny souvenir somewhere at home that will help you remember that **we can hear God's voice if we listen**. Maybe that's by your bed where you say a morning or bedtime prayer. Wherever you decide, be encouraged that **we can hear God's voice if we listen**.

### MEMORY VERSE | Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Challenge the kids to say the verse while pressing their palms against their cheeks and forming fish lips. See who can say it the fastest! Optional: Give out individually packaged Goldfish crackers to everyone. Have them eat one cracker after each time they say the memory verse.

## PLAY TIME

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

### ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute this week's coloring page, along with crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as kids color!

### ACTIVITY | Ocean Sensory Bin

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create an [ocean sensory bin](#) (or bins) for preschoolers to enjoy.

### ACTIVITY | Play-Dough Shapes

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide various colors of play dough and cookie cutter shapes that reinforce the Bible story. Invite preschoolers to play freely with the play dough and cookie cutters.

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