

WEEK 2

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE

the messengers



THE BIG IDEA

We can share the stories of
God's miracles.

THE BIBLE

Peter Heals Tabitha:
Acts 9:36-43

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Messenger Melodies

- **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!](#)
 - "Jesus Loves Me Remix" (Kidspring)
 - "Shout It Out" (Yancy)
 - "Let's Go Heroes" (Kidspring)
 - "I am Yours" (Life Church Kids)
 - "We're Not Scared" (Kidspring)

ACTIVITY | First Aid Game

- Welcome back! This month is all about the people who delivered the message about Jesus to the world.
- One of the things they told about Jesus was how he healed lots of people who were sick. Let's play a game about helping someone who is hurt!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Draw a to-scale person on a large piece of paper. Split the group into two teams and assign each team a color. Give each kid a piece of tape of their team's color. When you say go, have them race to where you placed the drawing, and have them place their "bandage" (tape) on the person. Keep going until the drawing is completely covered in tape or until everyone on each team has had a chance to go.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Have a leader pretend to be the one who's hurt and have toddlers stick easily removable stickers on the leader's arms to make them feel better!

ACTIVITY | Musical Cards

- Has anyone ever given you a greeting card for your birthday or at Christmas time? We use greeting cards to let people know we are thinking of them.
- We can even write one to people who might be feeling well.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up greeting cards (used cards will work) in a circle like you would set up chairs for musical chairs so that there is one less card than there are kids. Have kids walk in a circle while music plays and when the music stops, they need to sit on a card. Have the kid who doesn't have a card to sit on come to the "recovery center" (the middle of the circle) and have the rest of the kids say, "Get well soon!" Have kids stand up, remove a card, and play again. Keep going until only one kid remains and everyone else is in the "recovery center."

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Use greeting cards to make a matching game. Hold up a card and have toddlers find the matching card in a pile on the ground or table.

TEACHING TIME

BIBLE STORY | Peter Heals Tabitha

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask another leader to play Tabitha from Acts 9:36–43. They can act out all the things you describe about Tabitha as you tell the story.
- In today's story, there was a woman named Tabitha. Tabitha was loved by everyone! Maybe it was because . . .
 - She smiled and waved hello to people.
 - She shook people's hands.
 - She fist-bumped with friends.
 - She gave high fives.
 - She gave the warmest hugs.
- Okay, we don't know if she *actually* did all those things, but we know from the Bible that she was a kind person who loved Jesus.
- But one day, something awful happened. Tabitha got very sick and then . . . she died.
 - I know! So sad, right?
 - But when the apostle Peter (an apostle was like a messenger for God) heard the news, he knew that this wasn't going to be the end of Tabitha's story.
- Peter went to the house where Tabitha was. Everyone who was there was crying.
 - **Can you show me how you might cry if you were as sad as they were?**
- Peter sent everyone out of the room, then he started to pray. Then he said something to Tabitha, and I need you all to help me say it.
 - **On the count of three, everyone say, "Tabitha, get up." Ready? One, two, three . . . Tabitha, get up!**
- And guess what? Tabitha got up!
 - She opened her eyes
 - She wriggled her fingers and her toes.
 - She took a deep breath.

- She slowly sat up, stretched, and looked around.
- She was alive again!
- Everyone in town heard about what had happened and decided to follow Jesus, too. They knew that the God that Peter and Tabitha believed in was the only one who could do miracles like this!

BIG IDEA | We can share the stories of God's miracles.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Enlist the Special Messenger (SM) from Week 1 to "interrupt," carrying a huge greeting card that says, "We can share the stories of God's miracles."
- **Storyteller:** That was a really sad story with a happy ending. **Can you imagine how Tabitha's friends must have felt?**
- **SM:** Special Delivery! Special Delivery! I have a card meant for everyone in this room. Here. Why don't you read it to everyone? (*Hands card to Storyteller.*)
- **Storyteller:** Why thank you, Special Messenger. Let's see what it says. (*Open card to show the group.*) **We can share the stories of God's miracles.**
- **SM:** Well, what do you know! That's the Big Idea for today. **We can share stories of God's miracles.**
- **Storyteller:** That's right! Let's all say the Big Idea together! **We can share stories of God's miracles!**

VIDEO | The Messengers, Episode 2

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

ACTIVITY | Happy Plate, Sad Plate

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a paper plate and at least one marker. Tell them to draw a happy face on one side of the plate and a sad face on the other side. They can add color and get creative!
- ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Draw the faces on the plates in advance for toddlers. Hold up your own plate to show kids which side of the plate to show.
- Phew, today's story made us go through lots of feelings!
- Using the plates you just made, tell me how each part of the story made you feel!
 - **Peter was a follower of Jesus.**
 - **Tabitha helped people.**
 - **Tabitha got sick and died.**
 - **Tabitha's friends were crying.**
 - **Tabitha came back to life.**
 - **Other people began to follow Jesus.**

PRAYER

- God, remind us to share the stories of your miracles as a way to encourage the people around us. Nothing is impossible for you! Thank you for loving us and for hearing our prayers.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Band-Aid Snack

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids make their own [band-aid snacks](#) (or make them in advance for kids).
- **Have you ever gotten hurt before?**
- **What happened?**
- **Did you have to wear a band-aid or go to the hospital?**

ACTIVITY | Listen to Your Heart

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide kids with a headband, strip of paper or ribbon, adhesive foam stickers, and heart stickers. Check out this stethoscope [example](#). Help the kids create their own stethoscopes while talking through the topics below.
- If you've ever been to a doctor's office, you probably had someone listen to your heart using a stethoscope. Having a heartbeat means you're alive.
 - **Can you make a heartbeat sound?**
- Tabitha wasn't alive for a little while. Her heart wasn't beating.
 - **How did Tabitha's heart start beating again?**
- She came back to life when Peter prayed! He wasn't a doctor or anything but he trusted God to do a miracle, and God did!
- We might not be hospital workers – Peter wasn't either! – but there is one thing we can do. **We can share stories of God's miracles** and help people know God, too!

ACTIVITY | Bring Out the Tissues!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use a box of tissues for this activity. Make sure you use the style of box in which another tissue automatically pops up when you remove one.
- I brought a box of tissues because I had a feeling I might want to cry today. Like at the beginning of today's story, I was so sad when I found out Tabitha got sick and died.
- You were too, right? Here, have a tissue. *[Go around the room and offer each kid a tissue.]*
- **Did you notice that each time I pull out a tissue, another pops up? Why is that?**
- It's because they are connected! Just like we are all connected.
- We are connected because we all know about God. But you know what else we can do? We can connect other people to God, too. How?
- By telling someone about God. Maybe someone is sick and needs you to pray for them. Maybe someone is feeling down and needs you to cheer them up. Or needs kind words. Or just a tissue!
- **We can share stories of God's miracles!**

MEMORY VERSE | Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Break up the memory verse into six chunks and write them on sticky notes. Stick them to the ends of six artificial flowers. Put the flowers in a vase. Invite volunteers to come up and pull a flower out. Read it out loud for them (or have them repeat it after you). Once all the flowers are picked, line up all the volunteers in the correct order and have the group repeat after you as you say each chunk of the verse.

- Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

PLAY TIME

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

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTION:** Print and distribute this week's coloring page along with crayons or markers. Discuss today's Bible story and Big Idea as kids color.

ACTIVITY | Doctor, Doctor

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide toy first-aid kits and medical supplies and have kids take turns being health professionals and patients.

ACTIVITY | Miracle Stories

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pick one or two of your favorite storybooks that talk about a miracle in the bible or pick a chapter from a preschool Bible (like [this one](#)). After you read it for them, ask kids to tell you the story back. Help them by asking prompting questions as they retell the story.

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