



APRIL 2024

Babies-Toddlers Lesson **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

Bible Words: “Let your light shine.” Matthew 5:16, NIV

Bottom Line: You can do what Jesus says.

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what.

Monthly Bible Story: Light of the World • Matthew 5:1-2, 14-16

BIBLE STORY FOR NURSERY

(“Story Images” Activity Pages)

LEADER: “Hello, friends! I’m so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today’s true story from the Bible (hold up the Bible) begins when Jesus told His friends, the disciples, ‘You are the light of the world.’ Everyone, hold your finger in the air like this. (Demonstrate.) Let’s pretend this is your light.”

“When you are kind, your light shines and people can see that Jesus is kind. When you forgive, your light shines and people can see that Jesus forgives. When you share, your light shines and people can see that Jesus shares. When you help, you shine your light so people can see that Jesus helps. When you do what Jesus says, you shine your light so people can see that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever. YOU can do that! [Bottom Line] You can do what Jesus says.”

HOW TO USE THE ACTIVITIES

As a nursery volunteer, your primary focus is on keeping babies-toddlers safe and happy. We understand that your classroom is busy, and your hands are literally full. However, we know that your influence on these children is more than childcare. The activities included in this lesson are suggestions of how to be more intentional in pointing little ones to Jesus. The theme will remain the same all month long. Choose one activity per week to focus on and don’t worry if you run out of time.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(Monthly Parent Cue - 1 per family first weekend of the month)

Hand parents/influencers the Parent Cue handout (age specific for Babies vs Toddlers) and encourage them to review the activities with their child this week.

BABIES ACTIVITIES

BIBLE STORY SONG

What You Do:

- Sing the first chorus of the song with the children.

What You Say:

“This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.

“This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.

“This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.

“Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine.”

“Let your light shine because Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever!”

FIND A FRIEND

(Little People, Plastic Tub, Foam Hearts)

What You Do:

- Put the Little People in the plastic tub and cover them with foam hearts.
- Encourage children to find a Little People friend in the tub and talk about all the friends.
- Continue as long as interest holds.

What You Say:

“Friends, come sit with me. Do you see the friend that has a [color] shirt on? That’s right! You found the friend with the [color] shirt! Great job! Do you see the friend that has a [color] dress on? Yes! There is the friend with the [color] dress! Do you know who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be your friend forever.”

YOU CAN

(No Supplies)

What You Do:

- Sit with child and do motions with him.

What You Say:

“You can clap. Clap with me. You can jump. Jump with me. You can smile. Smile with me. You can give high fives. High five with me. You can love! Love with me. (Hug yourself.) You can do all those things! And you can do what Jesus says. Jesus wants to be your friend forever.”

TODDLER ACTIVITIES

CRAFT TIME

(**"Star Stamped" Activity Page, Star Stamps/Stickers, Yellow Washable Ink Pads, Baby Wipes**)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Star Stamped", one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to stamp a star on each of the pictures. Clean hands as needed.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "Look at the pictures on your paper, these are three ways you can do what Jesus says and shine your light. Let's put a cool star stamp on each of the pictures. This is a picture of friends playing on the playground. They are being kind to each other. Stamp a star on this picture. (Pause.) This is a picture of friends sharing a toy. Stamp a star on this picture. (Pause.) And the last picture is a brother helping his little sister. Stamp a star on this picture. (Pause.) When you are kind, or share, or help, you are doing what Jesus says! [Bottom Line] You can do what Jesus says."