



SHINE | WEEK 2 | APRIL 14, 2024

Preschool Lesson

Great Commission

Bible Story: Great Commission • Jesus says to tell others about Him • Matthew 28:18-20

Memory Verse: “Let your light shine.” Matthew 5:16, NIV

Key Question: Who can do what Jesus says?

Bottom Line: I can do what Jesus says.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Have you ever been somewhere where it was so dark you couldn't even see your hand in front of your face? So much darkness that you have to shuffle slowly, stumbling your way across the room with arms stretched out, hoping, searching . . . and then finally, with the flip of a switch, LIGHT! Light changes everything.

This month, we're talking about light, but not just any light. We're talking about Jesus—the light of the world—and how when we do what Jesus says, we shine. We shine the light of Jesus! After this month, we hope every time you and your preschoolers see a lamp or a star-filled sky, you remember that people were made to shine, and we have Jesus—the light of the world—to show us how. So, let's not hide our light. Let's SHINE and light up the dark so others can see their way to Jesus.

Story Focus: Jesus says to tell others about Him. Jesus gives His friends an important job to do—to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus is alive, and He wants to be their friend forever—and we can do that job too! When we go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus wants to be their friend forever, we are doing what Jesus says and shining our light.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow



KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

OPENING ACTIVITY

(No Supplies)

Kid Connect time is spent building relationships with the kids. Gather your small group together for some intentional connecting time before Large Group. You can do small activities while you chat together (like coloring or building with blocks) or just sit and listen to each other. Ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- How old are you?
- Do you have a favorite stuffed animal?
- Do you have a brother, sister, or pet? What are their names?
- What do you like to play at home?
- What's your favorite food/color/animal/ice cream flavor?

Transition to Large Group...

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE, BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE, MEMORY VERSE VIDEO; BIBLE)

LGL: "Hello my friends! How are you today? Come and sit with me. I am so glad you are here! My name is [your name]. I'm excited to spend time with you today! We are getting ready to sing and dance and hear a true story from the Bible. Before we do let's go over our rules and truths.

"Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? (Kids respond.) That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (List rules while counting on fingers)

1. Be kind. We can be kind by using our indoor speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders.
2. Be safe. We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. Have fun! We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!

“Can everybody follow those rules today? (Kids respond.) Great! KidCity is a place where we learn about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let’s say them all together! Are you ready?”

1. I am made by God. What is it? (Kids repeat.)
2. I am loved by God no matter what. What is it? (Kids repeat.)
3. I am made for a purpose! What is it? (Kids repeat.)

“It’s time for our memory verse. Let’s watch our memory verse motions and do it along with them!”

Show memory verse motion video and then practice without it.

‘Let (move flat hands forward from hip)
your light (palms facing forward)
shine,’ (twinkling hands moving out)
Matthew 5:16. (Open hands like a book).

“Ok, Now let’s sing and worship God!”

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: YOU LOVE ME, SUPER DUPER KID)

Sing the worship songs together.

INTRO SKETCH

(Small Flashlight, Small Cardstock Cut-out for Current Week (W1 Lightbulb, W2 Megaphone, W3 Heart, W4 Star), Story Box)

LGL brings the story box with the props to the center of the room. You should have a small flashlight and small cardstock cut-out for the current week (megaphone).

“I have my story box ready. I’m SO excited to see what we are learning about God today. Let’s see what I have in here…”

Pull out flashlight and small cardstock cut out for Week 2 (megaphone)

Hold up the flashlight. Do you know what this is? (Pause for responses). YES, it’s a flashlight! What does a flashlight do? (Pause for responses). YES, it helps us to see when it is dark. We are going to turn down our lights because I have something cool to show you. (Have someone in your room turn off or dim your lights as low as they go depending on your space and the comfort level of your kids). I have a small shape in my hand. I’m going to use the flashlight to help you see it. (Aim the flashlight towards a solid wall, panel or case, turn the flashlight on and place the cut-out image directly in front of the light. Adjust yourself closer or further away from the wall to make the image larger/smaller). Do you see it? What is it? (Pause for responses). YES, it’s a MEGAPHONE! I love how the light shined bright and allowed us to see.

Let's watch our Bible story to see how Jesus wants us to shine our light.

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

Wow! Was that a great story? Yes! When we go and tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus is alive and wants to be their friend forever, we're doing what Jesus says. And when we do what Jesus says, we shine our light!

When I ask you, 'Who can do what Jesus says?', I want you to say, [Bottom Line] 'I can do what Jesus says!' Let's try it! Who can do what Jesus says?" (I can do what Jesus says.)

SAY THE BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE)

Let's look at our Basic Truth for today. It says, 'I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God. We tell people about God when we share "Jesus is alive, and Jesus wants to be your friend forever!"

PRAY

"Let's pray together. (Have kids "put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.")

"Dear God, we want to do what Jesus says and go and tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus is alive, and He wants to be their friend forever. We love you, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."

PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Story: Great Commission • Jesus says to tell others about Him • Matthew 28:18-20

Memory Verse: “Let your light shine.” Matthew 5:16, NIV

Key Question: Who can do what Jesus says?

Bottom Line: I can do what Jesus says.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.

GO AND TELL

(“Places” Activity Pages, Wall Tape)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Tape “Places” activity pages around your small group area where they can be easily seen by the children. NOTE: You can adjust this activity into your small group circle and have the leader hold up one picture at a time if you do not have space to move around the room.

During the Activity: Name the places in each picture, so the children have an idea of where to go and tell when you play the game. Tell the children to listen and go (using movements) to the place you call out. When they get to the place, ask them to say to the people in the pictures, “Jesus wants to be your friend forever!” and then go back to their small group circle. Play as long as time and interest allow.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “I want to show you some pictures we have in the room today!”

During the Activity: “This is a [playground], can you hop like you are on the playground. This is a [grocery store], can you pretend to pick fresh fruit at the grocery store and put it in your basket. This is a [school], can you walk in a straight line OR pretend you are coloring. This is a [library], can you sit on the floor quietly and pretend you are listening to a story. We’re going to play a game with all the places. If I say, ‘Go and tell at the playground,’ hop to the playground picture and say to the children, ‘Jesus wants to be your friend forever.’ Then come back to our circle. Got it? Let’s play!

- Jesus says to Go and tell our friends about Him at the playground. Hop to the playground. and say to the kids playing ‘Jesus wants to be your friend forever.’
- Jesus says to Go and tell our friends about Him at the grocery store. Pick fresh fruit and put it in your basket, then say to the family, ‘Jesus wants to be your friend forever.’
- Jesus says to Go and tell our friends about Him at school. Walk in a straight line or pretend you are coloring, then say to the kids ‘Jesus wants to be your friend forever.’
- Jesus says to Go and tell our friends about Him at the library. Sit on the floor quietly and pretend you are listening to a story, then whisper to the kids, ‘Jesus wants to be your friend forever.’

That was so much fun, friends!

After the Activity: “Today in our Bible Story, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, to go and tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus is alive, and that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! We can do that, too, because we can do what Jesus says! Right? Right! So, tell me: Who can do what Jesus says? [Bottom Line] I can do what Jesus says! Yay! [Bottom Line] I can do what Jesus says!”

THIS LITTLE LIGHT

(Flashlight - 1 per group)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Gather kids in a circle standing up.

During the Activity: Shine the flashlight toward a child. (Keep the beam of light low so it doesn't shine in any eyes.) Then encourage everyone to say “Hi [child's name], Jesus wants to be your friend forever.” Then have everyone in the group give that child a HI-FIVE. Continue until every child has been greeted and told “Jesus wants to be your friend forever.”

FOR 4-5's: This is a great opportunity for kids to learn how to introduce themselves. Encourage children to take turns turning to the friend next to them and say, “Hi my name is [child's name], what's your name?” Then share, “Jesus wants to be your friend forever.”

After the Activity: Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “I have a really fun activity for us today. I have this flashlight and I'm going to shine it on a friend. When you see the friend with the flashlight shining on them, I want you to say 'hi' to our friend and say: 'Jesus wants to be your friend forever.' Then we are going to give that friend a HI-FIVE. Are you ready? (Pause) Okay, here we go!”

During the Activity: “Look for who I shine the flashlight on. (Turn the flashlight on and shine it on a child, making sure not to shine it in anyone's eyes.) Look, everyone! The light is shining on [child's name]! Say “Hi [child's name].” (Pause.) Now say, ‘Jesus wants to be your friend forever!’ (Pause.) Awesome! Now give [child's name] a HI-FIVE. Everyone, spread out again and watch to see who I shine the light on next. (Continue until each child gets a turn.) Wow, friends! That was so much fun getting to do what Jesus says to do!”

After the Activity: “In our Bible Story, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus is alive, and Jesus wants to be their friend forever! We can do that, too, because we can do what Jesus says! Who can do what Jesus says? [Bottom Line] I can do what Jesus says! Who can do what Jesus says? [Bottom Line] I can do what Jesus says!”

MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

(Memory Verse Motions Poster - 1 per group)

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for their efforts.

'Let (move flat hands forward from hip)
your light (palms facing forward)
shine,' (twinkling hands moving out)
Matthew 5:16. (Open hands like a book).

PRAYER

"Let's pray together. (Have kids "put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.")

"Dear God, help us do what Jesus says and go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus is alive, and He wants to be their friend forever. We love you, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)

Hand out placemats to parents as they arrive. Encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.