

JOHN TAUGHT ABOUT JESUS



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the boys and girls to clean up after the snack.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Show the children one or two nonfiction children's books. Comment that it is fun to read books about animals, the weather, or history. Show a Bible. Tell the children your favorite book to read is the Bible because it tells about Jesus.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

JOHN TAUGHT ABOUT JESUS—BASED ON LUKE 3:1-22; JOHN 1:29-34

- » Tell the boys and girls that in today's Bible story they will hear a true story about a man named John who taught people about Jesus. Mention that John wore camel hair clothes, ate locusts and wild honey, and lived in the desert wilderness. He helped people understand Jesus is God's Son.

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

- » People would go out to the desert to listen to John.
- » John preached to people and helped them learn how to obey God.
- » Jesus went to the river where John was baptizing people.
- » When people are baptized, they are lowered into the water and brought up again.
- » John knew that Jesus was God's Son.
- » John baptized Jesus in the river.
- » God's Spirit appeared like a dove, and the people heard God's voice say that Jesus is His Son.

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- » Where did John live?
- » What did John help people learn to do?
- » Who went to the river where John was?
- » What did John do for Jesus?
- » What did they hear God's voice say?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- » Comment that the Bible tells about Jesus.

ROOM

YOUR TEACHING PARTNER(S)

DATE OF USE

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

The Bible teaches what Jesus did.

LIFE POINT

The Bible tells about Jesus.

UNIT VERSE

All God's words are true.
Psalms 119:160

WEEKLY VERSE

John said, "Jesus is the Son of God." *John 1:34*

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow”:

The Bible tells about Jesus;

The Bible tells about Jesus;

The Bible tells about Jesus.

He is the Son of God.

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Open a Bible to John 1 and place a strip of paper in the page before closing the Bible. Invite a child to open the Bible to the marked page. Whisper the Weekly Verse in his ear and ask him to repeat it. Continue inviting the children to open the Bible and repeat the verse to the group.

PRAY

Lead the children in a thank-you prayer to God. Thank Him for giving us the Bible so that we can learn about Jesus.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: The Bible tells about Jesus.

- 1. Play in water.** Fill a tub half full of water. Set towels nearby. Invite two or three children at a time to scoop water with cups and pour it through funnels. Offer ladles, pipettes, and colanders and guide the preschoolers to watch how the water moves through the items. Remark that in today’s Bible story, Jesus got in the water with John, and John baptized Him. Recall that the people heard God’s voice saying that Jesus is God’s Son. Comment that we learn what Jesus did when we read the Bible.
- 2. Cross a river.** Cut several pieces of gray or black construction paper into ovals or stone shapes. Write each word of the Weekly Verse onto the shapes and tape them to the floor in a random pattern. Lead the children to hop from stone to stone while reading the words on each stone. Demonstrate how to hop next to a paper stone instead of on top of a stone to avoid slipping. Challenge the children to hop next to stones in verse order. Open the Bible as the preschoolers reach the end of the path. Read the verse again.

3. Spell words with blocks. Write the words *JOHN*, *JESUS*, *BIBLE*, and *GOD* on index cards. Gather wooden cube-shaped blocks that have letters on each side. Consider attaching a small piece of masking tape to blocks to add letters if lettered blocks are not available. Lead a child to spell the words on the index cards and search the blocks to find the letters that spell that word. While children spell words, remark that we read in the Bible that John taught people about Jesus. Say that Jesus is God’s Son.

4. Translate a verse. Open a Bible to the Weekly Verse and read it. Open a translation app on a smartphone or electronic device. Type in the verse and ask the app to translate it into another language. Utilize the app’s feature to speak the translation. Read the translation to a child. Say that even though the boys and girls are hearing the verse in another language, the Bible is still true. Remark that John told the people the good news of Jesus. Say that people all over the world still need to hear about Jesus. Remark that the Bible teaches what Jesus did.

CLEAN UP

As the children tidy up the room, mention that you are pleased with their work. Comment that after John baptized Jesus, everyone heard God’s voice say that He was pleased with His Son.

PASS A BIBLE

Instruct the children to sit in a circle. Place a strip of paper in the Bible at John 1:34. Give the Bible to the child at your right. Tell the preschoolers that when they hear the music, they should continue to move the Bible around the circle. Play a song about Jesus or sing today’s “Sing Together” song. Stop the music periodically. Ask the child who is holding the Bible to open the Bible to the verse, say the Life Point, or recall today’s Bible story by answering a review question about it.

DISMISS

Help children gather their papers and belongings. Thank them for coming. Remind parents to review the Bible story on the Kids Activity Page.