

JESUS TALKED WITH THE TEACHERS



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

1s–2s: Place the snack on the tables.

3s–5s: Choose children to help serve the snack. Ask a volunteer to pray. Remind preschoolers to clean their snack areas.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

1s–2s: Tell the Bible story as the children snack. Then allow the children to play in the room.

3s–5s: Invite the kids to line up behind you. Lead them around the room several times before leading them to the group-time area.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

JESUS TALKED WITH THE TEACHERS—BASED ON LUKE 2:41-52

- Open a Bible to Luke 2. State that Jesus went to the temple. A temple is like a church—a place to worship God. Tell the Bible story.

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

(Use words in **bold** for babies–2s; all words for 3s–5s.)

- **When Jesus was 12 years old, He went to the temple (church) in Jerusalem with His parents, Mary and Joseph, to celebrate a festival.**
- When the festival was over, **Mary and Joseph, their friends, and relatives started the journey home. After they had traveled for a day, Mary and Joseph began to look for Jesus. They could not find Him.**
- **Mary and Joseph** hurried back to Jerusalem. After three days, they **found Jesus** in the temple (**church**), **listening to the teachers and asking questions.**
- Mary told Jesus they had looked everywhere for Him.
- Jesus asked, “Didn’t you know I would be at the temple?”
- **Jesus went home and did what His parents told him to do. Jesus continued to grow and learn.**

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- Why did Mary and Joseph hurry back to Jerusalem?
- Where did Mary and Joseph find Jesus?
- What was Jesus doing in the temple?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- Say that Jesus grew and learned about God.

ROOM
YOUR TEACHING PARTNERS
DATE OF USE

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Jesus learned about God by reading the Scriptures.

LIFE POINT

Jesus grew and learned about God.

UNIT VERSE

God sent Jesus to teach the good news. Luke 4:18

WEEKLY VERSE

Jesus listened to the teachers and asked questions. Luke 2:46

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “London Bridge”:

*Jesus listened to the teachers,
To the teachers, to the teachers.
Jesus listened to the teachers
And asked questions.*

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Open a Bible to Luke 2:46. Lead the kids to repeat the verse several times, cupping their hands around their ears for *listened* and tapping their heads for *asked*.

PRAY

Invite preschoolers to say prayer requests. Invite volunteers to pray. Pray for the requests. Thank God that we can learn about Jesus in the Bible.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: Jesus grew and learned about God.

- 1. Draw pictures.** Fold sheets of paper into fourths, one per child. Give each child a folded sheet of paper. Invite the kids to draw pictures of themselves as babies in the first section, a picture of themselves now in the second section, a picture of themselves when they are older kids in the third section, and a picture of themselves as grown-ups in the final section. Mention that just like Jesus grew and learned about God, they will grow and learn about God, too.

Adapt for Babies–2s: Let the kids color on fine sandpaper with chalk.

- 2. Search for hidden words.** Write the name *Jesus* on several index cards. Hide them in a designated area of the room. Mention that in today’s Bible story, Mary and Joseph could not find Jesus. Remind the kids that they found Jesus in the temple (church). Challenge the preschoolers to look for the *Jesus* word cards in the room. Instruct the kids to bring found cards to you. Say and repeat the Life Point together with each child. Continue until each card is found, then play again.

Adapt for Babies–2s: Hide some cards in a container with shredded paper for younger preschoolers to find.

- 3. Play a question game.** Comment that when Mary and Joseph found Jesus, He was listening to the teachers in the temple and asking questions. Ask a “would you rather” question to the boys and girls, then invite them to move to one side of the room if they prefer the first answer and the other side if they prefer the second answer. Use simple questions such as, “Would you rather eat pizza or broccoli? Would you rather play inside or outside? Would you rather have a pet dog or a pet snake?”

Adapt for Babies–2s: Let the kids play with dolls. Mention that Jesus grew and learned about God.

- 4. Find a friend.** Invite the children to sit in a circle with their eyes closed. Gently tap one child to leave the circle and stand with a leader where he cannot be seen. Lead the kids to open their eyes and guess which friend is missing. Continue playing until each child gets a turn. Remark that when Mary and Joseph looked for Jesus, they saw He was missing from their group. Tell that three days later, Mary and Joseph found Jesus at the temple (church).

Adapt for Babies–2s: Provide pictures of the kids’ families to look at or books about families.

CLEAN UP

Lead the children to clean the room.

PLAY A GAME

Say that as Jesus grew, He obeyed God, and He also obeyed His parents. Make a *START* line on the floor using painter’s tape. Instruct the boys and girls to line up shoulder to shoulder behind the taped line while you stand on the opposite side of the room. Call out an action such as: “Take two tiny steps forward. Take one giant step forward. Hop three steps forward.” Lead the children to do the action. Remind them to listen and follow the directions. Say the Life Point together once all children reach you. Repeat activity as time allows.

DISMISS

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