

# First Look™

## Curriculum for Preschoolers

We want preschoolers to take a first look at who God is and understand . . .

God made me.

God loves me.

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

## March 8, 2020

**Bible Story Focus:** Jesus says, "Follow Me."

Andrew and Peter; John and James • *Matthew 4:18-22; Luke 5:1-11*

**Memory Verse:** "'Come and follow me,' Jesus said." Matthew 4:19, NIV

**Key Question:** Who can you follow?

**Bottom Line:** I can follow Jesus.

**Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

### **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)**

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

*Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as your 2-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door. At this age not all children will participate, but most will want to be part of the fun.*

#### **1. Gone Fishing**

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

**What You Need:** Laundry basket, foam fish, yarn, glue dots, scissors, and blue butcher paper

**What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Lay the paper on the floor in the activity area. Cut the yarn into two-foot sections. Place a glue dot on one end of each section of yarn. Place the basket onto the paper. Lay the fish all over the paper around the basket.

*During the Activity:* Invite the children to get into the basket. Give each child a piece of yarn. Challenge the children to dangle the string into the “water” with the glue at the bottom. Help the children touch a fish with the glue and bring the fish into the basket. Repeat until all of the fish have been caught.

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* “Let’s go fishing!”

*During the Activity:* “Let’s get into the boat! (*Point to basket.*) Here are your fishing poles (*give each child a piece of yarn with the glue dot hanging down*). Touch the dot on the end of your pole to the fish to catch them.” (*Do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “Wow! You are great fishermen! We are going to hear a Bible story about fishermen today! I cannot wait to hear all about how they followed Jesus!”

**Transition:** Move to Bible story time by pretending to fish with a pole as you walk to the story area.

## **2. In the Boat**

*Made to Play:* An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

**What You Need:** Painter’s tape

**What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Use the tape to create the outline of a boat on the floor in the activity area.

*During the Activity:* Guide the children to stand near the boat. Call out the children’s names one by one and ask them to get into the boat when called. Continue the activity until all of the children are in the boat.

*(NOTE: You will need the boat again this week for the Memory Verse activity.)*

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* “Let’s go sailing in our boat.” (*Point.*)

*During the Activity:* “Please listen for your name, and you may get in the boat. Are you ready?” (*Pause and do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “Way to go! I love how you listened! We are going to hear a Bible story about fishermen that were in a boat, too!”

**Transition:** Move to Bible story time by pretending to row a boat on the way to the story area.

### **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (Small Groups, 25 minutes)**

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

*Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities after the Bible Story. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room. At this age not all children will participate, but most will want to be part of the fun.*

#### **1. Verse in the Boat**

##### **Hear from God | Memory Verse Review**

*Made to Move:* An activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn

**What You Need:** The boat outline from the “In the Boat” activity

##### **What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Ask the children to get into the boat.

*During the Activity:* Say the Memory Verse with the children. Repeat several times.

##### **What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* “The fishermen were in their boat in our Bible story today. Let’s get into the boat, too!” (*Get into the boat.*)

*During the Activity:* “Let’s say our Memory Verse while we go sailing in the boat. (*Say the verse together.*) That was so much fun! Let’s say it again!” (*Finish activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “The fishermen all left their boats and followed Jesus. We can follow Jesus, too. **Who can you follow? [Bottom Line] I can follow Jesus!**”

#### **2. Parachute**

**Live for God | Application Activity**

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

**What You Need:** Foam fish and a parachute or sheet

**What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Lay the parachute flat on the floor. Place the fish on top of the parachute.

*During the Activity:* Ask the children to stand around the parachute with you, and invite them to each pick up a section of the parachute. Show the children how to shake their arms so that the parachute moves very fast. Encourage the children to try to bounce the fish. Repeat several times.

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* "The fishermen all followed Jesus."

*During the Activity:* "Let's play with the parachute. We are going to put fish on the parachute to bounce high." (*Do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* "Awesome job! The fishermen all stopped fishing and followed Jesus. We can follow Jesus, too. **Who can you follow? [Bottom Line] I can follow Jesus!**"