

Focus: Teaching others about Jesus.

Materials:

- Prayer Altar: Cross, Candle, Chasuble on stand (priest's vestment) and Altar Cloth
- CD: Bible Songs for Kids Vol. 2
- Bible: Children's Everyday Bible
- Book: Jesus A-Z
- Poster: Good News

Gathering (children find/sit on a carpet square)

Say: *Good Morning everyone, my name is _____. Last week we talked about when Jesus returned to the town where he was born. We learned that Jesus is our teacher. This week we will hear a story about when Jesus sent his disciples out to spread the Good News. Jesus wants us to spread the Good News too!*

Opening Prayer

Together we make the Sign of the Cross (do in reverse so children can mirror).

Say: *Now let's put our hands together and bow our heads.*

Let us pray.

Thank you, God, for choosing us to be members of your family. Help us to live as your children. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Song/Movement

Standin' In the Need of Prayer, track: 8, from Bible Songs for Kids-Vol. 2

Play music, encourage children to stretch or move to the music (clapping, stamp feet march in place to the beat), turn to each other and shake hands, saying hello, etc. Have children sit on their carpet squares when finished.

It's me, it's me, O Lord
Standing in the need of prayer;
It's me, it's me, O Lord
Standing in the need of prayer.
Not my father, not my mother, but
it's me, O Lord
Standing in the need of prayer.

Not my sister, not my brother. but
it's me, O Lord
Standing in the need of prayer.

Repeat both verses 2 more times.

Last time repeat last line: "Standing in the need of prayer."

Memory Verse

Say: *Now let's take a moment together to learn a verse from the bible.*

Teach them about the Kingdom of Heaven.

Have the children repeat the verse after you a couple of times.

Say: *All children are very important and special to God. God loves each of us and calls us by name. We are chosen by God to live as God's children. Part of living as God's children is teaching others about Jesus. To spread the Good News about Jesus, we tell others that Jesus loves us and wants us to be happy.*

Gospel Story

Say: *Today we are reading from the Gospel of Mark.*

Have children make sign of the cross on their forehead, mouth and heart saying. *"Lord, open my mind, my lips and my heart so that I may learn it, speak it and love it."*

Read: Children's Everyday Bible, pp. pg. 258, *Jesus Sends Out His Disciples*

After the reading say: *The Gospel of the Lord*

Children respond: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*

Discussion Starters:

- *How does Jesus send his disciples out into the world?*
- *What does Jesus tell them?*
- *How do the disciples continue Jesus' work on earth?*

Reflection on Reading:

In the gospel today, Jesus sends his followers out into the world to continue his work. Jesus knows that their mission will not be easy. That is why Jesus sends the twelve disciples out two by two. These pairs of friends are sent out to continue Jesus' work of forgiveness, casting out demons, and healing the sick. Jesus prepares his disciples by telling them what to take with them, where to stay, and what to do if they are not welcome.

Today's gospel reminds us that all followers of Jesus are called and sent. Even when it is difficult, the word and power of the Lord is with those who follow him.

- *Why does Jesus send the disciples out two by two?*
- *How does Jesus prepare them for their mission?*
- *How is the work of Jesus continued in the world today?*

Gospel Activity

Activity 1:

Read the Book-"A to Z Jesus" Go in order or skip around, read as many as time permits.

For us to be able to spread the Good News about Jesus we have to know everything we can about Jesus. Here's a book called "A to Z Jesus" It tell us 26 different things about Jesus, one for each letter of the alphabet. Let's see what new things we can learn about Jesus.

Activity 2:

GOOD NEWS- Use the Good News Poster to go over words that describe Jesus.

Complete the weekly bulletin as a group-let the children color them if there is extra time

Closing Prayer

(Children respond: "I Believe!")

Ask: *Do you believe in God, who chooses people to tell everyone about Jesus?*

Do you believe in Jesus, who sends us to spread the Good News?

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, who helps us do the work of Jesus in the World today?

Sending Forth

Say: *This week show that you are spreading the Good News by planning an act of kindness for a friend or family member.*

Lining Up/Closing Song

Play "*All Things Bright and Beautiful*" track 16 from Bible Songs for Kids Vol 2 while children put away any materials and lineup. Hand out weekly bulletins. Remind them it is important that they return to their family quietly so that we may all listen and pray together in church.