

Focus: Trust in God.

Materials:

Prayer Altar: Cross, Candle, Chasuble on stand (priest's vestment) and Altar Cloth
CD-Bible Songs for Kids—Vol. 3
Bible: In lesson plan

Gathering (children find/sit on a carpet square)

Say: *Good Morning everyone, my name is _____. Last week we talked about God's plan and that sometimes it is hard to follow God, because it makes us feel better to do something else, but God wants us to love Him and love others first. This week we will talk how the disciples were sent on a special trip and Jesus told them to t*

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.

Dear God, you and your son, Jesus, are calling us to tell the whole world about you. May we be unselfish and not worry about what we have to give up.

We pray this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Song/Movement

Jesus in the Morning, track: 26, from Bible Songs for Kids - Volume 3

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.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning,
Jesus at the noon time.
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun
goes down.

Replace words in bold with:

Praise him
Love him
Serve him
Thank him

Memory Verse

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

May there be peace in this house.

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

Say: *Jesus shows us how to spread peace wherever we go. Jesus takes care of others, he talks to those who are alone, he forgives others when they do wrong. Jesus asks us to be peacemakers and spread the love of God wherever we go.*

Gospel Story

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

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: None, pp. N/A,

Jesus chose seventy-two disciples.

[Make a motion like picking up small items and putting them in your hand]

He sent them, two at a time, to all the towns and villages he would go to later.

[Show 2 fingers and then point to the distance.]

Jesus said to them:

[Chatty hand, thumb to forefingers.]

“While you are travelling, do not take anything extra, like money or shoes.”

[Walk in place and make a motion to drop your bags or backpack]

“Do not stop along the way, go straight to the house and say:

[Chatty hand]

“May there be peace in this house!

[Hold your hands up in a broad, expansive blessing]

“If those who live in the house want peace, your peace will stay with them.

[Give yourself a hug]

“If they do not want it, it will not remain there.”

[Shake your head no, and point to the distance.]

“While you are in a town, heal the people who are sick and tell the everyone that the Kingdom of God has come.!”

[Point heavenwards]

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

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

Discussion Starters:

- *What did Jesus ask the disciples to do?*
- *What did he tell them to take with them?*
- *Do you think it was easy or hard for them to leave without taking anything?*
- *What were they to say when they entered a house?*
- *Why did they let the people know the Kingdom of God was near?*

Reflection on Reading:

Back in the days of Jesus, there weren't any Dunkin Donuts or McDonalds or malls to stop in and get what you needed. If you go on vacation, you pack what you think you will need, but if you forget something like sunscreen or socks you can go to store and buy them.

That is far different from what the disciples would have. Jesus sent them on long trips and told them not to pack anything. Their needs would be taken care of by those who they visited. The disciples trusted that God knew that people would be willing to care for them and want to hear the story of Jesus. God also knew that there were people who didn't want to hear the Good News, and Jesus said to leave them -- they would not be taken care of in those homes. Jesus wants us to tell others about God's love.

Gospel Activity

Activity 1:

Musical Prophets-

Use one of the songs from the Song and Movement CD for this activity.

Tell the children that prophets are people who listen to God with their hearts and tell others what God teaches them. The prophets of scripture told everyone over and over that doing God's will is the most important thing.

Play the music while the children walk in a circle. When the music stops they must sit down. The last one to sit is the "prophet." He or she must proclaim, in a strong, clear voice something they know about God or Jesus. No one is ever "out." Once the prophet has spoken, play resumes until the next "prophet" is chosen.

Activity 2:

Spreading Peace

Have the children stand in a circle. Start with one child and ask him/her to pick one person on either side of them to shake hands with saying, "peace be with you." In turn, the chosen child will pick another child and so on until everyone has had a chance. You might want to play some music, while the children are spreading peace. (Suggestion: "I've Got Peace Like A River", track 4, America's 25 Favorite Bible Songs.)

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 comforts us when we are sad?*

Do you believe in Jesus, who guides us in the way to bring God's peace to others?

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, who fills our hearts with God's own peace to share with everyone they meet?

Sending Forth

Say:

Lining Up/Closing Song

Play "*For the Beauty of the Earth*" track 13 from Bible Songs for Kids-Vol 3 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.