

WEEK 2

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE OPPOSITE DAY

THE BIG IDEA

Our struggles bring us
closer to Jesus.

THE BIBLE

Blessings and Woes:
Luke 6:17-26

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Opposite Relay

- Welcome to our second Opposite Day! Let's kick things off with a relay race with an opposite twist!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Divide the group into two teams, then have half of each team line up on one side of the room and the other half on the opposite side. When you say go, the first person from each team will crawl backward toward their teammate on the other side. Have them tag their teammate, who will also crawl backward and tag their teammate on the opposite side. The first team to have the entire team switch sides wins!*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Have kids line up at a starting line and at the same time crawl forward toward one end of the room and crawl backward on the way back.*
- **Was it hard to race backward?**
- Today we will hear about some things Jesus said that sounded like they were backward, but they weren't!

ACTIVITY | Opposite Match

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and cut the printable to create matching cards. Spread out all the cards face down in the middle of the room and have kids sit in a circle around them. Kids can take turns to flip over two cards. If they are opposites, they get to remove the cards from the pile. If not, they turn them back over and the next kid flips over two cards.*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Lay all the cards face up. Point to one card and tell kids what the opposite is. Help them identify the opposite card.*
- Having to find two opposite cards instead of two of the same cards was a little hard, right?
- We'll talk today about how some things that we think are hard are sometimes good for us!

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Opposite Day Songs

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *You can lead kids in worship with any songs you like best, but here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme.*
 - "I Will Follow" (Summit Kids)
 - "This Little Light of Mine" (CJ and Friends)

MEMORY VERSE | II Corinthians 12:9a (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Ask the kids to stand up.*
- Repeat the memory verse after me: **"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."**
- Now, let's say the memory verse again in a really quiet, whisper voice.
- **What is the opposite of a quiet, whisper voice?** That's right! Let's say the memory verse in a loud voice!

BIG IDEA | Our struggles bring us closer to Jesus.

- Now, let's say the Big Idea together: **Our struggles bring us closer to Jesus!**
- A struggle is something you have a hard time with. It can be anything from buttoning your jacket to learning something new in school. But our Big Idea reminds us that whenever we struggle, we can talk to Jesus about it!

BIBLE STORY | Blessings and Woes

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Open your Bible to Luke 6:17-26 as you paraphrase the story. Ask kids to give you a thumbs up each time you say "blessing" and a thumbs up every time you say "woe."*
- In today's Bible story, Jesus talked about two opposite things: **Blessings** and **woes**.
 - A **blessing** is a good thing in our life, the things we are thankful for. Having a place to live is a **blessing**. Having food to eat is a **blessing**.
 - A **woe** is a not-so-good thing. Falling down and scraping your knee could be a **woe**. Losing your toy at the park could be a **woe**.
- But you know what? Jesus taught it differently. The Bible tells us that Jesus said these things are **blessings**:
 - When we don't have what other people might have.
 - When we don't have enough of the things we need.
 - When we are facing sad times.
 - When people tease us for following Jesus.
- These are the things that Jesus said are **woes**:
 - When we have everything we need.
 - When we have everything we want.
 - When we have nothing to worry about.

- When we are popular and well-liked by many people.
- Huh? That seems . . . opposite!
- The reason Jesus said these things is because when our life is full of **blessings** only, it's easy to forget about God. When we don't need anything, we don't talk to God.
- But when we have **woes** in our life, we remember that we are not alone. Even when we are sad or lonely, we remember that God loves us. So a lot of times, it's during times of **woe** that we get closer to God!

VIDEO | Opposite Day, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).*

VIDEO | "The Beatitudes"

- Jesus taught about some of the blessings we heard today at another time when he was teaching on a mountainside. We can read about them in the book of Matthew, and the blessings there are called the "Beatitudes."
- Let's remember some of the opposite ways Jesus tells us we are blessed by learning this song together!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play [this video](#) and have kids follow along.*

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for showing us that even when things are hard, you are there for us. Help us to talk to you whenever we have a struggle so that we can get closer to you. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Sweet and Sour Snacks

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass out snack bags of sweet and sour snacks.*
- What's the opposite of sweet? That's right! It's sour!
- Today for snack time, we have a few snacks that are sweet and sour. **Which one is your favorite?**
- As we eat, this reminds us how sometimes what God wants us to do is the opposite of what we want to do. And even though it's hard, it's important for us to always listen to God because God knows what's best for us.

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and pass out this week's coloring page along with crayons or markers. Talk about how the image shows an opposite. As the kids color, discuss today's Bible story and Big Idea!*

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.