



MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically
designed for older preschoolers



1. LET'S TELL A STORY

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Story Pictures" Activity Pages and cardstock

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Story Pictures" on cardstock, one set per activity. Lay the pictures on the floor of your activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children to sit in your activity area. Explain that you will work together to make up a story! Show the children the pictures. Give them a sentence or two to help them get started. Then encourage the children to create a story with the pictures. They can move them around in any order.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Collect the Activity Pages and set aside for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, gather here with me! Let's make up a story. I LOVE to tell stories. Do you see these pictures? What is happening in this picture? (*Hold up one of the pictures.*) Let's create a story from these pictures!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You are GREAT storytellers! Jesus often told stories to teach us important things. Today, we heard a story Jesus told about a man who needed help. The Samaritan man helped him! I'm so glad Jesus teaches us to help others—that's REALLY important! **Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things.**"

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us
to help others.

GOOD SAMARITAN
LUKE 10:25-37

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed
at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you
important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me
important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.



MADE TO CREATE

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



2. HELPFUL BAGS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Helpful Bag Parent Note" Activity Page, cardstock, adhesive bandages, facial tissues, wrapped suckers, heart stickers, tissue paper, and paper lunch bags; Optional crayons or markers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Helpful Bag Parent Note" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; one per child. Set all of the supplies except the paper lunch sacks on the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Pass a paper lunch sack to each child. Tell the children that you will create a bag to help others. Pick up each item and talk about how it's used to help. Encourage the children to form a line, walk by the table, and put one of each item into their bags. Place a parent note in each child's bag then help put the tissue paper in the top like a gift when finished.

Option: To extend the activity, encourage the children to decorate their bags before filling them.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll make bags to help others. I have some items here for our bags. (*Hold up a bandage.*) How could I use this to help? (*Pause.*) Yes! It can go on a boo-boo to help someone feel better. (*Hold up the sucker.*) Yummy! How could a sucker help? (*Pause.*) Yes, it would definitely help me feel better if I was sad! (*Hold up the sticker.*) How could a heart sticker help someone? (*Pause.*) Yes! Hearts say 'I love you!' When someone is upset or angry, we can help them by telling them 'I love you.' (*Hold up the facial tissue.*) How can a tissue help someone? (*Pause.*) Yes! When someone has a cold and is sneezing, you can give them a tissue to help them. Let's put one of each of these things in our bags. How many of each item? (*Pause.*) One. That's right. Okay, friends, let's fill our bags."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Your helper bags are great! I hope you will remember this bag and use the things inside to help someone this week. Then you can help someone just like the Samaritan man did in our story today. Jesus told us this story about the Samaritan and how he helped the hurt man because He wanted us to know that we can help everyone. Jesus teaches us all kinds of important things. That's why when I ask, '**Who teaches you important things?**', I want you to say '**Jesus teaches me important things.**' **Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things.**"

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us to help others.

GOOD SAMARITAN
LUKE 10:25-37

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to ride donkeys to our small group spot. A donkey is kind of like a horse. Okay everyone, get on your donkey like this. (*Pretend to get on your donkey.*) Hold the reins like this (*demonstrate*), and here we go! (*Pretend to ride a donkey as you lead the children to your small group spot.*)

"Whoa, donkey! Everyone, get off your donkey and sit down so we can talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*)

"Our Bible story, today, was another story Jesus told. This story was about a man who helped another man who was very hurt. One day, a man was walking down a road. Some men made a very bad choice and hurt this man. Then they took all of his stuff! They left the hurt man all alone on the road. Two people walked by the hurt man and did not stop to help him. Then, a third man came by. Did that man help the hurt man? (*Pause.*) Yes, he did! He even put the hurt man on his donkey and carried him somewhere where he could rest and get better.

"Jesus told this story so we can know that it's important to help others. Where can we read the stories that Jesus told? (*Pause.*) You got it! The Bible! (*Hold up the Bible.*) Jesus teaches us lots of important things in the Bible. **Who teaches you important things?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus teaches me important things."

SGL: "Jesus loves us and wants to teach us what is important. The Bible verse we're learning will help us remember that Jesus is an amazing teacher. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'The crowds were amazed at his teaching,' Matthew 7:28. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*) Let's stand up and say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'The crowds (*arms out and around*) were amazed (*hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close*) at his teaching (*hands to mouth*),' Matthew 7:28." (*Open hands like a book.*)

(*Repeat the verse with motions a few times.*)

SGL: "Way to go! (*Give high fives.*) Now let's sit down so we can write in our

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WEEK
FOUR
JANUARY 2022

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

prayer journal and talk to God. *(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)*

“Since Jesus teaches us that it is important to help others, we’ll make a list of ways we can help others. So think about it. What are some ways you can help your mom, dad, brother, sister, friends, grandparents, teacher, coach—there are so many ways we can help! When I say your name, tell me one way we can help others, and I will write it in our prayer journal. *(Say each child’s name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

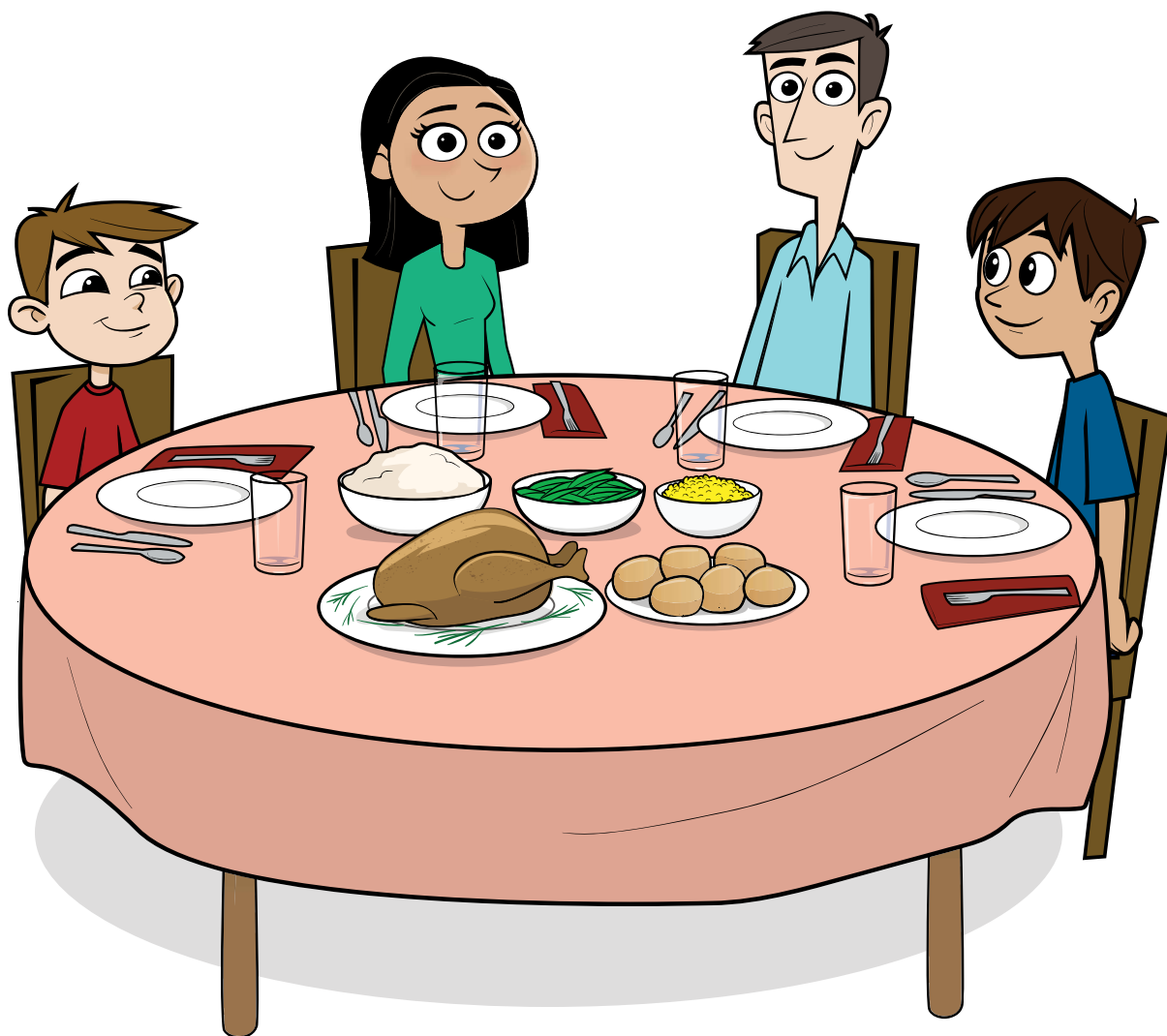
“This is a very special list. Let’s use it when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: “Dear God, we want to be people who stop and help others. Please help us do things like *(read the list the children made)*. Thank You for sending Jesus to teach us how to help. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”







Today, your child heard the story of the Good Samaritan and learned that we can help others. Together, we assembled these helpful bags. When you get home, we encourage you to open the bag, talk about the items inside and brainstorm ways you can use these to help others this week. Thanks for sharing your child with us today!

Jesus teaches me important things.



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JANUARY 2022

Memory Verse Motions



"The crowds



were amazed



at His teaching."



Matthew 7:28



Story Time

MONTHLY OVERVIEW

A great storyteller can pull you in and make you forget everything else that is going on around you. They make you feel empathy and conviction for things that really matter. Life lessons are revealed with each word, and you walk away wanting to change and just be a better human.

Jesus is *that* kind of storyteller.

Jesus is indeed the master storyteller and there is nothing better than Story Time with Him. When Jesus starts talking, it's time to listen. Because, Jesus teaches me important things.

WEEK ONE

BIBLE STORY
Prodigal Son
Luke 15:11-24

STORY FOCUS
Jesus teaches us God loves us no matter what.

WEEK TWO

BIBLE STORY
The Lost Sheep
Luke 15:3-7

STORY FOCUS
Jesus teaches us we are important to God.

WEEK THREE

BIBLE STORY
Bigger Barns
Acts 2:45; Luke 12:16-21

STORY FOCUS
Jesus teaches us we can share our stuff.

WEEK FOUR

BIBLE STORY
Good Samaritan
Luke 10:25-37

STORY FOCUS
Jesus teaches us to help others.

WEEK FIVE

BIBLE STORY
House on a Rock
Matthew 7:24-27

STORY FOCUS
Jesus teaches us how to live.

MEMORY VERSE

"THE CROWDS WERE
AMAZED AT HIS
TEACHING."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

WHO TEACHES YOU
IMPORTANT THINGS?

BOTTOM LINE

JESUS TEACHES ME
IMPORTANT THINGS.

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.