

May 12

9:00am & 11:00am

Three and Four Year Olds

## JESUS GAVE HIS FOLLOWERS A MISSION

(Acts 1)

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Jesus left earth and returned to heaven, but He did not leave us alone. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work on earth while we wait for Jesus to come back and make everything new.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** How does the Holy Spirit help Christians? *The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.*

**KEY PASSAGE:** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith,

**Key Passage Phrase:** God's Spirit helps us be like Jesus. Galatians 5:22

### LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

#### 1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Place **cotton balls** around the classroom. Encourage boys and girls to find a cotton ball and bring it to group time. Assist preschoolers as needed so that everyone is able to bring a cotton ball to the group. Invite preschoolers to place their cotton balls on the sheet of blue construction paper to resemble a cloud.

**SAY** *When Jesus left earth, He returned to heaven. Jesus' friends saw Jesus go up to heaven! A cloud took Him out of their sight. Let's find out what happened.*

#### 2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

\*9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time.\*

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

*If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.*

#### 3. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

**SAY** *Our big picture question and answer for today and our next few times together tells us about the Holy Spirit. Here is the question, **How does the Holy Spirit help Christians?** We'll be learning this answer, **The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.** Before Jesus went up into the clouds, He promised to send the Holy Spirit to His friends. Anyone who follows Jesus today also has received the Holy Spirit so that He can comfort us, show us our sin, and guide us.*

#### 4. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the key passage marker at Galatians 5:22-23. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Create motions for preschoolers to use as they say the key passage. Use the key passage song video for inspiration.

**SAY** *Do you think that the Bible is talking about real fruit, like bananas and apples here? **[Allow responses.]** I don't think so, either. Just like oranges come from an orange tree or strawberries come from a strawberry plant, the fruit of the Spirit comes from a person who has the Holy Spirit. We will learn more about the Holy Spirit during our next few times together.*

#### 5. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Review today's Bible story by asking the following review questions.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)
2. What was the mission Jesus gave His friends? (Jesus told His friends to go and tell the whole world about Him.)
3. Who was the Helper that Jesus promised to send to His followers? (*the Holy Spirit*)
4. What are some things you can tell other people about Jesus? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)

5. Can you name one or two people in your life that you like to talk to about Jesus? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)
6. How does the Holy Spirit help Christians? The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.

**SAY** *Jesus gave His friends a mission before He went to heaven. He said that they should tell everyone near and far about Him. He also promised to send the Holy Spirit who would send and guide them in their mission. Everyone who follows Jesus receives the Holy Spirit and has this same mission to tell others about Jesus.*

## 6. PRAY

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have. Pray for them.

**SAY** *Jesus, thank You for promising to send the Holy Spirit. We are thankful that He lives with every person who follows You and that He comforts us, shows us our sin so that we can turn away from it, and guides us. Amen.*

## ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE ONE OR ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES BELOW)

### TRAVEL TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Place **three blocks** at different distances from a wall in the room. Demonstrate for preschoolers how to start at the wall, go to the first block, go back to the wall, go to the second block, and so on until you have traveled to and from all three blocks. Invite preschoolers to travel this course one at a time. You may choose to time children with a timer or pocket device.

**SAY** *The first block was close, the second one was a little bit farther, and the third one was far away. Before He disappeared in the clouds, Jesus said that His followers would tell people about Him in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Jerusalem was close to where they were, Judea and Samaria were a bit farther, and the ends of the earth was very far away. Jesus would send the Holy Spirit to help them take the good news about Jesus all over the world.*

### FOLLOW THE KING'S INSTRUCTIONS

Play "Simon Says," but instead of calling the person at the front *Simon*, call them *the King*. *The King* will give instructions to all the preschoolers, but the preschoolers should only perform the action if the King also said "The King says ..." before the instruction. If those words are not said, then the preschoolers should ignore the instructions. Every few minutes, give another preschooler a chance to be *the King*.

**SAY** *The disciples asked if Jesus was going to be king of Israel. But Jesus had something bigger in mind. He is not just the king of one nation or one group of people; He is King over the whole world—all of creation! King Jesus has given us a mission to tell others about Him, and we can obey this mission with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

### COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE (*please send this home with parents*)

As children color, **SAY** *Jesus left earth and returned to heaven, but He did not leave us alone.*

*Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us do God's work on earth while we wait for Jesus to come again.*

## OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to Acts 1 and tell the following Bible story.

### JESUS GAVE HIS FOLLOWERS A MISSION

**SAY** *Jesus' friends were in the city. Jesus told them to wait there because God was going to send the Holy Spirit.*

*When Jesus and all His friends were together, Jesus said, "You will get power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. You will tell people about Me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The friends needed the Holy Spirit's power so they could tell people all across the world about Jesus.*

*Then something amazing happened! Jesus' friends saw Jesus go up to heaven! A cloud took Him out of their sight. As the friends looked into the sky, two men in white clothes stood beside them. The men said, "Why are you staring up into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven. One day, He will come back again in the same way."*

*Christ Connection: Jesus left earth and returned to heaven, but He did not leave us alone. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us do God's work on earth while we wait for Jesus to come again.*

## **DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS**

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

**May 12**

**9:00am & 11:00am**

*Two Year Olds*

## **JESUS GAVE HIS FOLLOWERS A MISSION**

(Acts 1)

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us while we wait for Jesus to come again.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** How do we know God wants us to know Him? We know God wants us to know Him because He shows Himself through the Bible.

**KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:** God's Spirit helps us be like Jesus. Galatians 5:22

### **LEARN**

*(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)*

#### **1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY: PRETEND TO LOOK AT CLOUDS**

Invite preschoolers to look up to the sky as they come to group time. Demonstrate for boys and girls how to shade their eyes from the sun with their hands. Encourage preschoolers to point out the clouds they pretend to see. Tell preschoolers that Jesus went up to heaven and that a cloud took Him out of His friends' sight.

#### **2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.**

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

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#### **3. LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE**

Place the key passage phrase marker at Galatians 5:22. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Encourage preschoolers to do the following motions when saying the key passage phrase: God's Spirit (*point upward*) gives us love (*cross arms over your chest like a hug*), joy (*point to your mouth and make a big smile*), and peace (*fold hands*) like Jesus (*point upward*). Galatians 5:22 (*Open hands like opening a Bible.*)

**SAY** *Jesus left earth and returned to heaven. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us do God's work on earth while we wait for Him to come again. The Holy Spirit gives us love, joy, and peace.*

### **ACTIVITIES**

#### **LOOK HIGH AND LOW**

Invite preschoolers to join you in playing a game. Look up toward the ceiling as you say, "I see something white that is up high." Once boys and girls have guessed what you see, play another round. Look down toward the ground as you say, "I see something (*insert color*) that is down low." Alternate between looking high and low to find items in the classroom. Classroom items that are higher than a preschooler's eye level could include light switches, ceiling tiles, or overhead lights. Give additional hints if needed. Allow boys and girls to take turns being the leader.

**SAY** *You did a good job looking high and low to find things. Jesus' friends looked high into the sky when Jesus went up to heaven. A cloud took Him out of His friends' sight. As the friends looked into the sky, two men in white clothes stood beside them. The men asked, 'Why are you staring up into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven. One day, He will come back again in the same way.'*

#### **COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE** (*please send this home with parents*)

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the GOSPEL GEMS below:

- Jesus said, "Tell people about Me."
- Jesus' friends saw Jesus go up to heaven.
- One day, Jesus will come back again.

## OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

Open the Bible to Acts 1. and tell the following Bible story:

### **BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS:**

Jesus and all His friends were together. Jesus said, "You will get power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. You will tell people about Me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The friends needed God's Spirit to help them tell people all across the world about Jesus. Then Jesus' friends saw Jesus go up into the sky! A cloud took Him out of their sight. Two men in white clothes said, "Jesus has been taken into heaven. One day, He will come back again."

**Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.**