

July Week 4
Garden
Making Waves

July 24

CRAFT

Jesus and the Children

SUPPLIES: Let the Children come to me page, children cut out, crayons, glue sticks

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children join you at the table and pass out one sheet to each child.**
 - *“Hello, friends! Today, we heard about a time Jesus was teaching and lots of people wanted to see Him. Many parents wanted their children to be close to Jesus, but the disciples wouldn’t let them get close.*
 - *Let’s pause our story right there and let’s first color Jesus and the beautiful scenery around him.”*

- ⇒ **Pass out a children cut out. Have children color and then use glue sticks to attach to the page.**
 - *“So we’ve got Jesus, but where are the children?! Here they are! Let’s color the children.*
 - *Those kids look great! Now let’s glue them right next to Jesus!*
 - *When Jesus heard the disciples tell the children to go away, He gently said ‘Let the little children come to me!’ Jesus let the children come right up front. He hugged them and was kind and talked to them.”*

- ⇒ **Complete activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus**
 - *“Jesus was being gentle, and Jesus wants to help us be gentle, too. Jesus can help us choose to be gentle!*
 - ***Who can help you do everything?***
 - ***Jesus can help me do everything!”***

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ACTIVITY #1

Gentle, Not Gentle

SUPPLIES: several soft and hard items, such as: a cotton ball, a rock, a sponge, a pom pom, a plastic cup, a wooden block, a toy truck, a plush friend, etc.

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **This activity can be done from tables/centers or gathered on the floor in the center of the room.**
 - *“Friends, gather round. I have a bin full of items here.”*
- ⇒ **Hold up one item at a time and ask kids if they think it will be gentle or not gentle when it falls. Hold the item up and drop. Determine if it was gentle or not gentle.**
 - *“We are going to play Gentle/Not Gentle. Some items fall gently and others fall hard – they are not gentle. I am going to hold up one item at a time and when I do, I want you to tell me if you think it will be gentle or not gentle when it falls.”*
- ⇒ **Determine Gentle/Not Gentle with each item.**
- ⇒ **Finish the activity and bring it back to Jesus.**
 - *“That was fun! Friends, we can be gentle, too. We can use gentle hands, move slower, or talk quietly to practice being gentle.”*
 - *When Jesus is our friend forever, he can help us to be gentle! He can help us do everything! Friends, tell me....*
 - ***Who can help you do everything? Jesus can help me do everything!”***

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ACTIVITY #2

Gentleness Look and Find

SUPPLIES: Assorted Feathers

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather children in the center of the room.**

- *“Friends, do you know what this is? That’s right! It’s a feather. We are using the feather this week to symbolize GENTLENESS! We learned today in our true story that Jesus was gentle, and he wants us to be gentle, too! Remember, Gentleness is part of the fruit of the spirit that comes from knowing Jesus is our friend forever.*
- *I want you to close your eyes and I am going to hide the feathers around the room. Then, when I say to open them, go and find one feather and come back to the group and hold it in your hand.*

⇒ **Once every child has found a feather, have them hold them in their hand, stand up, and gently drop it to the ground. Then practice other ways to be gentle with the feather.**

- *“You found the feathers! Nice work! Now let’s all get up and hold our feathers up in the air and watch them gently fall to the ground.*
- *Nice job, friends! We can all be gentle. When I say, ‘who can be gentle?’ I want you to say, ‘I can be gentle!’*
- *Now let’s all use one finger and softly touch the feather. We can be gentle. Who can be gentle? I can be gentle!*
- *Now, let’s stand up and walk slowly while we hold the feather gently in the palm of our hands. Can you walk gently with me? Nice work!*
- *Who can be gentle? I can be gentle!”*

⇒ **Repeat as many times as children are interested.**

⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *“Friends, we can be gentle like Jesus because Jesus can help us. I am so thankful God sent Jesus to be our friend forever because Jesus can help us do everything!*
- ***Who can help you do everything?***
- ***Jesus can help me do everything!”***

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STEP 3

Read-Ask-Practice-Pray

Here are some ideas to try in a group or one-on-one.

2-year-olds are all at different stages of development! Some are ready to answer big questions and say the memory verse, while others aren't ready to talk yet. Even if they aren't ready to answer, they are listening!

READ A BIBLE STORY or STORY BOOK

⇒ *9 Fruits Alive*

⇒ *Jesus Loves Me*

⇒ *Jesus is With Me*

ASK A QUESTION

Who can help you with everything?

Jesus can help me with everything!

PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life.’” John 14:6

SAY A PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for making me.

Thank you for loving me.

Thank you for sending Jesus to be my friend forever.

Amen.