



3, 2, 1...Freeze!

Peter Heals a Man Who Can't Walk

BIG IDEA: I can learn about Jesus at church.

BIBLE BASIS: Acts 3

KEY VERSE: "Where two or three people gather in my name, I am there with them." Matthew 18:20

☆ PLAY TIME ACTIVITY

THE SCOOT ROUTE

Supplies: Various obstacles (sport cones, chairs, stuffed animals, plastic cups, boxes, etc.)

Directions: Use various obstacles to create an obstacle course on the ground. Tell the children to weave their way around each obstacle *without* using their legs. Instead, direct them to sit on the ground and scoot along the floor using only their arms and hands. For an additional challenge, as a part of the obstacle course, tie a piece of string about two feet high between two chairs and have the children scoot underneath it.

Question: What was it like trying to move around without using your legs?

Say: Can you imagine what it would be like if your legs didn't work? That's what happened to a man in our Bible story for today. His legs didn't work and he couldn't walk, but then something amazing happened. We'll find out what happened in a little bit and we'll discover that **I can learn about Jesus at church.**

☆ LARGE GROUP LESSON



★ SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY DRIVE

Supplies: Paper plates (1 per child), “Church Picture” printout (1 per group)

Directions: Place the paper plates in a circle on the floor with about 1–2 feet between each plate. There should be one plate for each child. After laying all of the plates down, remove one of them and replace it with the “Church Picture.” Have all of the children stand on a paper plate except for one child who will stand on the church. As you slowly say the “Driving Rhyme” below, have the children walk in a circle, stepping from plate to plate, while pretending to drive a car. When the rhyme is finished, have the children stop. Ask the child standing in the church to tell everyone one thing they know about Jesus. (If they need help, prompt them with questions such as, “Where was Jesus born?” or “Tell us one miracle or amazing thing Jesus did.” Play additional rounds for as long as interest allows.

Driving Rhyme:

Let’s turn left. Let’s turn right. Let’s stop at this traffic light. Let’s drive up. Let’s drive down. Let’s drive all around our town. And stop!

Say: Wow! You kids sure know a lot about Jesus. And you did a great job teaching each other about Jesus, too. That’s one of the reasons why going to church is so important. **We can learn about Jesus at church.**

STANLEY GOES TO CHURCH (Application Activity)

Supplies: Printable game cards (1 set per group), printable game board (1 per group), “Stanley” cutout game piece (1 per group)

Directions: Seat your children in a circle around the game board. Spread the game cards on the floor or table and place the “Stanley” cutout game piece on the START space of the game board. Tell the children that the object of the game is to help Stanley get to church. Allow the children to take turns selecting one of the game cards, then read the card aloud. There are two different kinds of cards: question cards and action cards. Every time they answer a question about Jesus correctly or successfully perform an action, they get to move Stanley one space (footprint) toward church. Continue until Stanley has arrived at church, then celebrate with the children.

Say: You did a great job getting Stanley to church! Now that Stanley is at church, He can learn all about Jesus. Maybe someday he’ll even know as much about Jesus as YOU do! That’s why going to church is so important. **We can learn about Jesus at church.**

Question: If you met Stanley at church, what else could you tell Him about Jesus?

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OVER UNDER RACE (Bible Memorization Activity)

Supplies: Ball or balloon (1 per group)

Today's Bible verse:

"Where two (*hold up two fingers*) or three (*hold up three fingers*) people gather (*alternate hands as if inviting kids towards you*) in my name, I am there with them (*give yourself a hug*)." Matthew 18:20 (*extend hands like you're holding a book*).

Directions: Practice the verse together until the children can remember it. When ready, divide the children into two groups. Have the children in one group line up, single-file, facing the same direction with about 12 inches of space between each child. Give the ball or balloon to the child in the front of the line. Have that child pass the ball with both hands over their head to the child behind them. The child behind them must receive the ball with both hands and pass it under/between their legs to the child behind them. Each child must alternate between passing the ball over their head and under their legs until it reaches the end of the line.

At the same time, the other group must recite the Bible verse aloud with hand motions while the first group is passing the ball. If they can recite the entire verse before the ball reaches the end of the line, they win the round. Have the groups switch roles and repeat. Continue playing rounds for as long as interest allows.

WIGGLE FREEZE (Bible Story Review Activity)

Supplies: None

Directions: Tell the children that when you say, "Wiggle," they can move and wiggle in whatever way they want, but when you say, "Freeze," they have to stop and remain totally still until someone is caught moving. Begin by repeatedly saying "Wiggle" for as long as you would like, then say "Freeze!" The children will freeze in place. Watch closely to see which child moves first. Whichever child moves first, ask that child what happened first in today's Bible story. (They don't have to tell the whole story, just the first part.) If necessary, allow the other children to help. When finished, begin saying "Wiggle" again and repeat the above instructions. For each additional round, ask the child who moves first to tell what happened next in the story. Continue playing until the whole story has been told.

COLORING SHEET AND SNACK TIME (GO! Deeper Activity)

Directions: Give each child a Bible story coloring sheet and some crayons or markers. While the children are coloring, give them a snack to eat and ask the following questions to help them go deeper into the story:

Question: What do you think it was like for the man to be able to walk for the first time ever?

Question: Peter told lots of people about Jesus. If you were Peter, what would you tell the people about Jesus?

Say: In today's Bible story, Peter told the people all about Jesus. **We can learn about Jesus at church.** Let's say a prayer to Jesus and tell Him all of the things we love about church.

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Prayer: Begin by asking if any of the children would like to pray. Allow any children who want to pray the opportunity to do so. When they're finished, close the prayer by telling Jesus what you love about church and thanking Him for some of the things mentioned by the children.