



## Let's Draw It

### Jesus Loves the Children

**BIG IDEA:** Jesus loves me so, so much.

**BIBLE BASIS:** Mark 10:13-16

**KEY VERSE:** "Just as the Father has loved me, I have loved you."  
John 15:9

## ★ PLAY TIME ACTIVITY

### YOU'RE TOO LITTLE

**Supplies:** Tape (1 roll), Post-It® Notes (1 per child), markers (3–4)

**Preparation:** Put a horizontal line of tape on a wall about six feet off the ground.

**Directions:** Give each child a Post-It® Note and have them write their name on it. Tell them to jump and stick it to the wall as high up as they can. Challenge them to stick their note above the tape on the wall. (They shouldn't be able to.) When the children are finished, point out that no one got their Post-It® Note over the line, but announce whose note was the highest.

**Say:** No one got their Post-It® Note over the line. That's because you're all too little. In today's true Bible story, the disciples told some children that they were too little to be with Jesus. During our story time, we're going to find out if Jesus agreed.

**Question:** What do you think? Are kids too little to spend time with Jesus?

## ★ LARGE GROUP LESSON



## ★ SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

### **BALLOON BOP** (Application Activity)

**Supplies:** Inflated balloon (1 per group)

**Say:** In today's true Bible story, we learned that you're never too little to spend time with Jesus. We can spend time with Jesus by praying, singing songs, reading the Bible, or drawing praise pictures for Him. We're going to play a game that helps us think about our favorite way to spend time with Jesus.

**Directions:** Direct the children to stand up. Toss the balloon above the children and have them continually bop it in the air while singing the first verse of "Jesus Loves Me." (See lyrics below.) If the balloon drops to the ground, pick it up and continue to bop it in the air. When the song is finished, tell the children to catch the balloon. Ask each child who catches the balloon what their favorite way to spend time with Jesus is. Be prepared to remind them of the different ways. If the child has already caught the balloon in a previous round, have them hand it to a child who has not caught the balloon. Continue playing until everyone has had a turn sharing.

#### **Jesus Loves Me:**

Jesus loves me, this I know.  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong.  
They are weak, but He is strong.

### **TOSS ACROSS**

**Supplies:** Stuffed animal or ball (1 per group)

**Directions:** Sit with the children in a circle. Toss the stuffed animal to a child across the circle while saying, "Jesus loves [name of child] so, so much." Have that child pass the stuffed animal to another child while repeating the phrase with the receiving child's name inserted. Continue tossing the stuffed animal until every child has received it. Play additional rounds. For each round, use a different fun voice while saying the phrase. (See list below.)

#### **Voices:**

- Mouse
- Robot
- Silly
- Dinosaur

**Say:** You're never too little for Jesus to love you. Whether you're short or tall, big or small, **Jesus loves you so, so much!**

**Question:** If you could spend a day with Jesus, what would you do with Him?



## **HOT LAVA** (Bible Memorization Activity)

**Supplies:** Tape (1 roll)

**Preparation:** Create a tape line on the floor in a zig-zag pattern. The line should be about 10 feet long.

### **Today's Bible verse:**

"Just as the Father (*point up with both hands*) has loved me (*hug yourself*), I (*point to yourself with both thumbs*) have loved (*hug yourself again*) you (*point to children*)." John 15:9 (*extend hands like you're holding a book*).

**Directions:** Practice the verse together until the children can remember it. When ready, tell the children to pretend like the floor is hot lava and the only safe passage across is on the tape line. Challenge the children to walk the line one at a time while reciting the verse aloud. If they step off of the line, they must begin again. After all of the children complete one trip across the hot lava, play additional rounds using different methods for crossing the lava, such as walking backwards or hopping on one foot.

## **LET'S DRAW IT** (Bible Story Review Activity)

**Supplies:** Butcher block paper (1 large sheet), markers or crayons

**Directions:** Give the children markers or crayons and have them gather around a large piece of butcher block paper. Ask the children, "What happened first in the today's Bible story?" Allow the children to answer. Then, tell the children to draw that part of the story. They can each create their own drawings on the paper. When finished, ask the children what happened next in the story. Then, just like before, have them draw that part of the story. As the story unfolds, so will the drawings. When finished, consider hanging the butcher block paper on the wall for the children to see.

## **COLORING SHEET AND SNACK TIME** (GO! Deeper Activity)

**Directions:** During the large group storytelling time, children will receive a coloring sheet with missing pictures. As the story progresses, the children will draw the missing pictures. For this activity, allow the children to color their now-completed coloring sheet. 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 was your favorite part of today's Bible story?

**Question:** Why do you think Jesus wanted to spend time with the little children?

**Say:** Today we learned that Jesus doesn't just love grown-ups, He loves kids too! Whether you're big or small, short or tall, **Jesus loves you so, so much.** Let's say a prayer and thank Jesus for loving us so much.

# May 28-29

Small Group Lesson | Preschool



**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 thanking Jesus for loving each of the children by name.