



Let's Draw It

Four Friends Find Jesus

BIG IDEA: God gives me helpers. I'm a helper too!

BIBLE BASIS: Mark 2:1-12

KEY VERSE: "Where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD." Psalm 121:1-2

★ PLAY TIME ACTIVITY

BLANKET STRETCHER

Supplies: Blanket (1)

Directions: Lay a blanket or sheet on the floor. Choose a child to lay down on it. Tell the other children to surround the blanket and grab an edge. On the count of three, have the children try to pick up the blanket with the child, move it a very short distance, then gently set it down. Allow the children to take turns being on the blanket.

Question: How hard was it to pick up the blanket with someone on it? Could you have walked a long way like that?

Say: In our true Bible story for today, there are four friends who use a mat to carry a man who can't walk. But they don't just carry him for a short distance. They carry him a long, long way. We're going to hear all about it in a little bit, and we're going to learn that **God gives us helpers, I'm a helper too!**

★ LARGE GROUP LESSON



★ SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

TISSUE TIME (Application Activity)

Supplies: Facial tissues (1 per child), tape (1 roll)

Preparation: Create a trail of X's on the floor with tape. Vary the distance from one X to another. Make some of them a step away and some of them a leap. The children will have to step or jump from one X to another.

Directions: Give each child a tissue and have them line up at the beginning of the trail of X's. Choose one child to be the helper. Tell the children they have to balance the tissue on their head, then step or jump from one X to the next without the tissue coming off. If the tissue falls off, they must freeze in place and call out, "I need a helper!" The helper can then pick up the tissue and place it back on the child's head. When the child reaches the end, they can be the helper for the next child in line. Continue until every child has had a turn. Play additional rounds if time and interest allow.

Say: Wiggle your fingers if you liked being a helper. (*Children wiggle fingers.*) God gives us LOTS of helpers, but He wants us to be helpers too!

Question: How can you be a helper at home? At school? At your friend's house?

FOUR FRIENDS RELAY (Application Activity)

Supplies: Stuffed animal (1 per group), masking or painters tape (1 roll), blanket (1 per group)

Preparation: Place tape around each of the stuffed animal's legs as if it were wearing casts.

Directions: Tell the children to pretend their friend (the stuffed animal) is hurt and can't walk. Place the stuffed animal in the center of the blanket. Choose four children to hold a corner and pick up the blanket. Starting at one wall in the room, have the children travel together to the opposite wall and back, then hand the blanket off to another set of four children. Continue until every child has had a turn. Play additional rounds by having the children move in the following different ways: hop on two feet, hop on one foot, crawl forward, and crawl backward. When finished, have the children take a seat.

Say: You were just like the four friends in our true Bible story for today. They carried the man who couldn't walk all the way to Jesus and lowered him through the roof. The four friends were helpers. God wants us to be helpers too!

Question: Tell us about a time when you were a helper. Who did you help, and what did you do?



HOT LAVA (Bible Memorization Activity)

Supplies: Tape (1 roll)

Preparation: Create a tape line on the floor in a zigzag pattern. The line should be about 10 feet long.

Today's Bible verse:

"Where (*fan hands out, palms facing up*) does my help (*clasp hands together*) come from (*place fingers on forehead and look around*)? My (*point to yourself*) help (*clasp hands together again*) comes from the LORD (*point up*)." Psalm 121:1-2 (*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 our Bible story? Why did you like that part?

Question: How hard do you think it was for the four friends to carry the man who couldn't walk?

Say: God gives us LOTS of helpers, but He wants us to be helpers too! Let's say a prayer and ask God to help us be great helpers this week.

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 God for giving the children helpers and by asking God to help the children do the things in their pictures.