

Day Three - Follow Jesus To Share The Good News

BIBLE REFERENCES:

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to (the disciples), "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you to the end of the age."

WORSHIP AS A GLOBAL VILLAGE

1. Bible reference
2. Use Script 3, based on the story of the Great Commissioning as the children get ready to go off into the world to spread the Good News of God's love.
3. Sing-a-long
4. Prayer

Script 3:

[Readers needed: Michael, Laura, Nicky]

Michael: Gee, I can't wait to get home. Don't get me wrong, I've enjoyed being here at camp with all of you, and camp sure has been fun, even if the food hasn't been that great. But I can't wait to get home.

Laura: Me too. I can't wait to see my friends at home. I want to hear all about what they've been doing this week and I want them to hear all about what I've been doing.

Nicky: Same here. Do you know what? I think I'm going to be a different person when I go back home.

Michael: What does that mean? You've only been here a few days, and you haven't changed that much in only a few days. I don't think I've changed any.

Nicky: I think I have changed. The stories I've heard, the songs I've sung, the projects I've worked on, the fun stuff I've been part of here at camp have changed me. They've made me more aware of how God is here in my life all the time, and how God wants to be in the lives of everybody in the world.

Laura: I think I feel the same way, as if the way God wants it to happen is for us to go and tell others that God's present with them all the time.

Michael: Isn't that kind of what Jesus meant when he told his followers that they get to go and tell the whole world about God?

Nicky: Yes, I suppose it is. And we begin by telling those closest to us, and by telling even those far away from us.

Laura: Oh, and do you know what else I just thought of? What if those farthest away and

those closest to us are also followers of Jesus and are trying to tell us that God is present? So we should be listeners as well as speakers.

Michael: Listeners as well as speakers. Now that's something to take home with us.

JOURNEY WITH JESUS GAME - The purpose of this game is to take the children on a journey with Jesus and to let them discover the types of things that could be taken with them to spread the Gospel message.

Supplies - One small suitcase or travel bag
26 index cards
pencils

Procedure

1. Print one letter of the alphabet on each card before the children arrive.
2. Hand out the index cards and a pencil. You can do this as a large group or divide into smaller groups. The leader says the following: Let's get ready to go and preach with Jesus! We need to pack 26 items to take with on our journey. These items are things Jesus gives us to help us show His love to others as we travel through our lives. Each item will begin with a different letter of the alphabet. Let's think of some of the things that we will need. When you think of an idea with the letter on your card write it down.
3. Take a number of minutes to make the alphabet cards of things to take. An item for A might be A pleasant attitude; D might be devotion. You may need to help the students.
4. Place a piece of luggage in the center of the table and add the items to the suitcase one at a time. Demonstrate by saying, I'm on a journey for Jesus and He's giving me (E for energy) to pack.
5. A variation might be to go around add one item and have the next child try to remember the first item and add the second item. The third child then remembers item 1 and 2 and adds item 3 and so on.

TRAVEL PLACEMATS - The purpose of this project is to help the children understand that they can spread the Good News everywhere and anywhere they might be.

Supplies:

Construction paper 12"X16"
Construction paper cut in various size rectangles
Globe of the world
Pencils, markers, crayons
Scissors
Glue
Clear contact paper to make it water proof (optional)

Procedure: (You will need to do some of the writing work for the younger children)

1. Choose a color of construction paper for each child. Give each child a suitcase pattern
2. Use the globe to help the children brainstorm places that they could travel to, to help spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.
3. After the children have brainstormed their ideas they should decide which places they might like to travel to and print them on the construction paper rectangles.
4. The children can color their suitcases and decorate them with homemade stickers of places they would like to travel to.

5. If you would like cover the placemats with clear contact paper to turn it into a reusable placemat.

JOURNEY WITH JESUS RELAY - The purpose behind this game is to show the children that they may be called on without notice to witness for Jesus. It needs to be emphasized that when they are called they need to be ready to go.

Supplies:

- Bedsheet piece about 3'X6'
- Cotton rope
- Adult sized slip on sandals
- Cotton drawstring laundry bag stuffed with newspaper
- Large knee high socks

Procedure: (all ages)

1. Divided the children into teams of five (depending on the number of children you have).
2. When the teams are ready say the following: "Jesus has called you to go out into the world and to preach the Good News to all the people that you meet. He needs you to be ready as quickly as you can. You are going to pretend that you are going to get ready to follow Jesus out into the world." Each person in line will take a turn putting on the traveling clothes that you see in front of you as fast as you can. As soon as you have everything on, take the items off as fast as you can and give them to the next person in line, who will then dress and undress the same way. The first team to have all of their Missionaries for Jesus dresses and undressed in their travel clothes is the winner.
3. Now demonstrate how the dressing works. The bedsheet slips over the head to become a cloak, the rope is used as a belt, the socks and sandals slip on the feet, and the laundry bag is slung over the shoulder.

REMINDER RING - The purpose of this activity is to have the children make a physical reminder of their promise to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people that they meet. They can be reminded that this can be done by their words as well as their actions.

Supplies:

- Large plastic lids (like from coffee cans)
- Paper punch
- seam binding or ribbon
- Poster board circles
- Crayons or markers
- Glitter, flat sequins, and self adhesive stickers of Christian symbols
- Thick craft glue
- Scissor

Procedure: Things to have ready before the children arrive:

1. Punch 6 holes around the rim of each lid. Space the holes evenly.
2. Cut poster board into circles that will fit inside the plastic lid, two circles for each child. Punch holes in the circles to match the lids.
3. Precut the seam binding or ribbon to the following lengths (3 - 36" pieces and 3 - 18"

pieces) for each child.

Things to do in class:

1. Older students can prepare their own materials as listed above.
2. Use markers or crayons to write a joyful message on the center of the circles. Ideas include Jesus saves!; Jesus is always with me; Jesus loves all the children of the world; Jesus is our Savior; Jesus cares for his children; Tell the Good News.
3. Glue glitter and sequins or stickers around the messages to give them a festive joyful look.
4. Glue the circle inside the lid with the thick craft glue, matching up the holes as you go.
5. Thread the 18" streamers through every other hole of the lid. Tie each end securely to the lid at one end.
6. Tie the loose ends of these piece together at the top to make a handle.
7. Thread the 36" pieces through the other holes in the lid and knot them to hold them in place.

SHARE GOD'S WORD JOY SHAKERS - The purpose of this project is to have the younger children make something that will physically remind them to share the love of Jesus with everyone they meet. They can do this with a song and their shakers.

Supplies:

- Empty toilet paper roll
- Colored plastic wrap 8" squares (2 for each child)
- Scissor
- Clear strapping tape
- uncooked rice (about 1/4 cup for each child)
- Narrow craft ribbon
- Adhesive paper plain or designed
- Stickers of Christian symbols

Procedures:

1. Cut 2 squares of colored plastic wrap. Fold one square in half twice to make a 4"inch square and tape it over one end with the clear strapping tape.
2. Pour about 1/4 cup uncooked rice into the tube.
3. Fold the other piece of plastic wrap and secure it over the other end of the tube.
4. Cut the craft ribbon or crepe paper streamers to the outside of the tube.
5. Cover the outside of the tube with adhesive paper and let the children add stickers or draw on the paper with permanent markers.

These joy shakers can be used as their way of sharing the joy of Jesus' love with all the children of the world.

FISHER'S OF MEN LACE-UPS - The purpose of this project is to make the children aware of the fact that because Jesus loves them they can reach out with that love to others. They can bring others into the community of believers. This is a reminder for them that they are an active part of the community of Christ.

Supplies:

- Large styrofoam meat tray, 1 for each student
- Shoelaces, 1 for each student
- Sharp pencil

Ruler
Permanent Markers
Lace or other trim
Thick craft glue
Paper punch
Yarn, 24" lengths

Procedure: (Preschool and Kindergarten) To use this project with younger children, you will need to do everything except the lacing. You might find older students that would like to help assemble these for the younger children.

Procedure:

1. Lightly sketch a Christian symbol in the center of the tray.
2. Make light pencil marks about every 1/2 inch around the outside of the design.
3. Poke the pencil through each of the pencil marks.
4. Above and below right a message such as Jesus Loves You, Follow Jesus, or I Am A Follower Of Jesus. Use the permanent markers to write this message.
5. Make a knot in one end of the shoelace and thread it through the punched holes to highlight the design.
6. Glue lace or other trim around the outside of the meat tray.
7. Make holes in the top corner with the paper punch and thread the yarn through the holes to make a hanger.

CATCH A FISH GAME - The purpose of this activity is to catch "FISH". Remind the children that the fish are other children that they can tell about Jesus. Let them see how many "FISH" they can bring to Jesus.

Supplies:

Medium Sponges, 2 for every 2 students
Ink pen
Small fish Pattern
Scissor
Clean onion and/or orange or potato bags (1 for every 2 students)

Procedure: Cut the sponges into fish shapes before the children arrive. Divide the children into groups of two. Give each group a net bag and three sponge fish. One child holds the bag open while the other child stand several feet away and tries to throw the sponge fish into the bag. The children should switch positions and try the game several times.