



STORIES OF JESUS IN JOHN

LESSON PLANS

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Published by Wesleyan Publishing House
Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

These lesson plans are to be used in conjunction with the Speed Sketch Bible Stories series—*Stories of Jesus in John* (Indianapolis: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2016).

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INTRODUCTION



Wesleyan Publishing House is happy to provide Speed Sketch Bible Stories customers with these free lesson plans and resources, which offer options and ideas for how to build a children's lesson around a Speed Sketch Bible Stories video. The "Review and Memory Time" options provided at the bottom of each lesson page refers to the additional Review Options PDF resource also available at www.speedsketchbible.com. Some of the options provided in the Review Options resource suggest the use of an additional product available for purchase: BibleStoryCards™, which is available for purchase at www.wphresources.com/biblestorycards.

Blessings to you in your ministry,
The WPH Staff

JESUS CALLS THE DISCIPLES



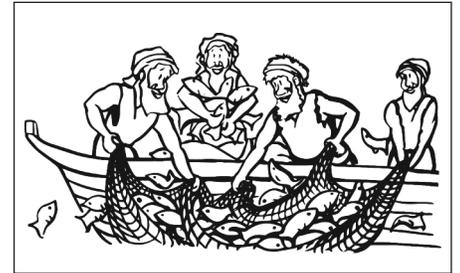
Story Reference: Mark 1:14–20

Memory Verse: Mark 1:17—"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

STORYTELLING TIME

To the Storyteller

Peers are important to children, especially older children. Because of close associations with their peers, children are influenced in both good and bad ways. This also happens in "hero worship," where a star or athlete is put on a pedestal and is sometimes admired to a fault. If children learn to follow Jesus, they still can appreciate their peers and heroes, but can overcome negative influences and hero worship. It is important to follow Jesus, even if it means giving up something or someone.



Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

Memory Object: Suitcase

Giveaway: A ziplock bag

Story/Object Association: Jesus asking the disciples to leave their homes and follow him

Review Questions

1. What were the men called who followed Jesus? (**Disciples**)
2. Who were the first two men Jesus called? (**Peter and Andrew**)
3. What were they doing when Jesus called them? (**Fishing**)
4. What does "I will make you fishers of men" mean? (**That Jesus will help his followers to "catch" or win people for Jesus**)
5. What are the names of the twelve disciples? (**Peter, Andrew, James son of Zebedee, John, Philip, Thomas, Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon, Bartholomew, Thaddaeus, and Judas**)

Life Application Question: What does it mean to follow Jesus? (**It means that you are trying to do the things that Jesus would do. Follow his example.**)

Prayer Focus

Receiving Jesus as personal Savior

REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

Review Options

- Bible Tic-Tac-Toe #4
- Guess My Name #11
- Story Review Cards #23
- Change the Bible Story #28

Memory Verse Options

- Memory Verse Envelope #3
- Memory Verse Pocket #6
- Round Table Memory #14

Memory Object Options

- Object Mural #8
- Memory Object Bookmark #9

JESUS CHANGING WATER INTO WINE



Story Reference: John 2:1–11

Memory Verse: Philippians 4:6—"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

STORYTELLING TIME

To the Storyteller

The story of Jesus' turning water into wine can often be neglected because of the subject matter. This is unfortunate not only because it is his first miracle described in Scripture, causing his disciples to "believe in him"; but Mary's part in the story illustrates the important position we all have through prayer. Mary made her request known to Jesus, and then trusted him however he would respond.



Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

Memory Object: Grape juice jar or bottle

Giveaway: Water bottles; grape juice in cups

Story/Object Association: Jesus turned water into wine.

Review Questions

1. Who was with Jesus at the wedding? (**Jesus' mother, Mary, and the twelve disciples**)
2. What problem at the wedding did Mary notice and tell Jesus about? (**The wine was all gone.**)
3. When Jesus told his mother it wasn't his time for doing miracles, what did his mother do? (**She told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them.**)
4. What did Jesus tell the servants to do to the large stone jars? (**Fill them with water.**)
5. When Jesus told the servant to fill a glass with the water and give it to the head of the wedding party, what happened? (**The water in the glass became good wine.**)

Life Application Question: What are some things you can ask of God that will help others? (**Look for different prayer requests for the benefit of friends and family, but also for people beyond—such as the poor, the sick, and the homeless.**)

Prayer Focus

Praying for all things

REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

Review Options

- Overhead Game #3
- Balloon Pop Review #13
- Story Review Cards #23
- Bible Wheel of Fortune #29

Memory Verse Options

- Guess a Letter #13
- Memory Verse Sticks #20
- Memory Verse Bulletin Board #24

Memory Object Options

- Object Bag #3
- Memory Object Bookmark #9

THE SAMARITAN WOMAN



Story Reference: John 4:4-42

Memory Verse: John 4:13-14—Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst."

STORYTELLING TIME

To the Storyteller

With the right encouragement, children can be easily motivated to share Jesus with others. This story gives insight into Jesus' approach to unbelievers. The story also makes a great case against prejudice. Jesus models for us acceptance of others and being a witness to them. Guide your children in understanding these principles. As a rule, children can learn these ideas quickly and easily, but need to be reminded of them often.



Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

Memory Object: A bottle of water

Giveaway: A small cup of water

Story/Object Association: When Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well

Review Questions

1. Where did Jesus go after he left Judea? (**Samaria**)
2. Why didn't the Jews talk to the Samaritans? (**Because the Jews thought the Samaritans were "different"**)
3. Where did Jesus meet the Samaritan woman? (**At a well**)
4. Why was the woman amazed Jesus spoke to her? (**Because she was a Samaritan and Jesus was a Jew**)
5. What is the "living water" Jesus talked about? (**Jesus himself is the "living water." He was the only one who could forgive the woman of her sins.**)

Life Application Question: How can you tell others about Jesus? (**By reading the Bible to them, and by talking and behaving like Jesus would**)

Prayer Focus

Witnessing to others

REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

Review Options

- Overhead Game #3
- Bible Baseball #12
- Bible Story Mural #26
- Change the Bible Story #28

Memory Verse Options

- Memory Balloon-a-Thon #11
- Memory Ladder #16
- Memory Verse Sticks #20

Memory Object Options

- Object Match #2
- Musical Objects #6

LAZARUS



Story Reference: John 11:1–44

Memory Verse: John 11:25—Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.”

STORYTELLING TIME

To the Storyteller

Death is often a foreboding issue, but it is a part of life which we all must face. It can sometimes be a confusing subject to children but should not be ignored. Though it is not fun to discuss, because of the concern that someone might get upset, go ahead and tackle the subject of death with your children. They will love the ending of the story of Lazarus’ death — his resurrection. When we die, it is not the end, but rather a new beginning.



Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

Memory Object: White sheet

Giveaway: A piece of gauze

Story/Object Association: What was used to cover Lazarus after he had died

Review Questions

1. Who were the sisters of Lazarus? (**Mary and Martha**)
2. Why did these sisters send a message to Jesus? (**Because Lazarus was very sick**)
3. What happened to Lazarus? (**He died.**)
4. What did the sisters say when they saw Jesus? (“**Jesus if you had been here sooner, you could have healed our brother.**”)
5. What did Jesus do for Lazarus? (**He raised Lazarus from the dead.**)

Life Application Question: What will happen to everyone who dies? (**They will go to either heaven or hell.**)

Prayer Focus

The unsaved

REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

Review Options

- Give Me a Clue #2
- Bible Pictionary #9
- Who Am I? #16
- Bible Story Map #24

Memory Verse Options

- Memory Verse Mix #2
- Clue Word Memory Cards #8
- Balloon Pop Race #21

Memory Object Options

- Object Match #2
- Name That Object #4

JESUS APPEARS TO THE DISCIPLES



Story Reference: John 20:24–29

Memory Verse: John 20:29—Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

STORYTELLING TIME

To the Storyteller

As adults, we tend to doubt things which seem impossible, unless we have some type of proof to make us believe. Thomas expected the same proof when the disciples said that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thomas wouldn't believe unless he saw Jesus' nail-pierced hands. We do not have the luxury of seeing Jesus as the disciples saw Him, but through the Holy Spirit, Jesus makes his presence known and we can have the assurance that he is alive and with us today.



Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

Memory Object: A doorknob

Giveaway: A small hinge

Story/Object Association: When Jesus walked through the door appearing to the disciples

Review Questions

1. What did Peter and John tell the disciples? **(That Jesus had risen from the dead)**
2. Why did the disciples lock the door to the house? **(They were afraid the Jews would try to capture them.)**
3. What did Jesus eat to prove that he was alive? **(A piece of broiled fish)**
4. Who doubted that Jesus was really alive? **(Thomas)**
5. Why did Jesus show Thomas his hands and side? **(So Thomas could see for himself that Jesus was alive)**

Life Application Question: How do we know Jesus was resurrected? **(Because the Bible, God's Word, tells us so. And we can believe that the Bible is the truth.)**

Prayer Focus

Praise to God for Jesus' being with us today

REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

Review Options

- Name Scramble #7
- Balloon Pop Review #13
- Bible Charades #14
- Bible Wheel of Fortune #29

Memory Verse Options

- Clue Word Memory Cards #8
- Balloon Pop Race #21
- Name That Verse #23

Memory Object Options

- Bible Biography #1
- Object Sequence #5

THE GREAT FISH CATCH



Story Reference: John 21:1–14

Memory Verse: 1 John 1:3—And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

STORYTELLING TIME

To the Storyteller

It is wonderful to get together with fellow Christians, whether it be at church, in Bible study groups, or just meeting at someone's home for dinner. The disciples loved to fellowship with their Lord; they loved being with him. Help your children to realize that Jesus wants to have fellowship with each of them, just as he did with the disciples. And they can have that fellowship with Jesus through prayer, reading Scripture, and even while they are with other Christians.



Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

Memory Object: Net

Giveaway: A small piece of netting

Story/Object Association: The net the disciples used to catch the fish

Review Questions

1. How many disciples went fishing? (**Seven**)
2. How many fish did they catch that night? (**None**)
3. What did the man on the shore tell them to do? (**Put their net on the other side of their boat**)
4. Who was the man on the shore? (**Jesus**)
5. What did Peter do when he saw who the man was? (**He jumped into the water and started swimming toward Jesus.**)

Life Application Question: How do we fellowship with Jesus today? (**Through prayer, singing, prayer/study groups, and reading the Bible**)

Prayer Focus

Fellowship with Jesus

REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

Review Options

- What Am I? #10
- Newspaper Search #17
- Story Diorama #22
- Change the Bible Story #28

Memory Verse Options

- Memory Verse Mix #2
- Catch a Verse #12
- Memory Verse Bulletin Board #24

Memory Object Options

- Object Bag #3
- Name That Object #4