



I Spy

Jairus' Daughter is Alive

BIG IDEA: Jesus can do anything.

BIBLE BASIS: Luke 8:40-42, 49-56

KEY VERSE: "With people, this is impossible. But with God, all things are possible." Matthew 19:26 (NirV)

SCHEDULE

2S & 3S CLASSES

ARRIVAL & PLAYTIME

10:30-10:55

2S & 3S LARGE GROUP

10:55-11:10

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

11:10-12:00

PRE-K & K CLASSES

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

10:30-11:15

PRE-K & KINDER LARGE GROUP

11:15-11:40

REVIEW ACTIVITIES

11:40-12:00

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LEADER DEVOTIONAL

Before going any farther, read the story of Jairus' daughter in Luke 8:40-42 and 49-56. Usually, I read this story through the lens of the adults that were present. I connect with the stress in the parents, the sadness in the family, the surprise and faith in the disciples. However, I don't often think about the daughter's perspective. What was this all like for her?

Ugh, I feel terrible. Every part of me hurts. Mom is trying to get me to eat, but I'm not hungry. I don't think that food will stay down. I don't want to throw up. My head hurts. Everything hurts. I'm hot and cold at the same time. Dad looks really worried. He and Mom are talking. I wonder where he's going. Ow. I just want to sleep. Why are there so many people here? They all look so scared. I don't want them to cry. This room is getting dark. I feel so far away... Who is this man? He looks so kind. Where did everyone go? Mom and Dad look so surprised. I feel so much better! What happened? Hey, is there any food left?

If I had to guess, this is what I'd imagine was running through the mind of Jairus' daughter during the events of Luke 8. By looking at her perspective, we get a quick view of how kids experience Jesus' healing power. At least in this particular story, the daughter experiences Jesus through the faith of her dad. Without Jairus running to get Jesus, the daughter would never know that the Son of God had the power to heal. In fact, her stakes were even higher — without Jesus, she would literally have been dead! I can only imagine that her life was radically changed from that point forward — I'd bet that every time she even felt mildly ill, she went straight to God before wasting time on any other avenues.

This week, you have the opportunity to be Jairus to the kids in your ministry. You are bringing Jesus to these kids in the form of a story. Even though you might be repeating a fact about God that you've known for years, the kids won't see it that way. They'll be amazed that God can do anything — the very same God that created planets and solar systems cares about us when we feel under the weather. God can heal things that medical treatment never can, including death! How different is life when you know that you can take your pain to Jesus and He can heal you? It is an incredible part of life with Jesus, and it will transform the lives of the kids forever!

Patrick Thompson
GO! Contributor



SMALL GROUP SKILL BUILDING

How to Prepare Like a Champ for Small Group

Picture this scene: Moments before children’s church is scheduled to begin, a leader stands in the corner of the room with their face buried in some papers labeled “Small Group Lesson.” They seem oblivious to the kids moving quickly and loudly all around them. A bead of sweat rolls down their face. The clock ticks loudly as they read at a fevered pace. Have you seen this leader? *Are you* this leader? There’s no judgment here! We get it — life is often *really* busy, and finding the time to volunteer, much less prepare, can be tough. But by investing just a small amount of time into preparation, you can go from being a good leader to a great one. Here’s how:

Read your lesson ahead of time. You saw that one coming, didn’t you? When the kids arrive, it’s game time. When you’ve read the lesson ahead of time, the kids get your full attention from the moment they walk in. When small group begins, you’ll be able to lead much more effectively if you’re not trying to figure the lesson out for yourself at the same time you’re explaining it to your group.

Familiarize yourself with the materials. Many of the small group activities in the GO! curriculum have materials that go with it. When you read the lesson at home, you might have a picture of what the materials look like, but double check to make sure what you imagined matches reality when you arrive at church.

Prepare your own heart. The best way to lead the kids in your group is through example. Consider reading the Bible story ahead of time and asking yourself how it applies to your own life. Spend some time in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to show you how you need to change in light of this story.

7.1 Small Group Lesson | Pre-K & K



☆ PLAY TIME ACTIVITY

Along with your other play time activities, present the following activity to children as they first arrive in the preschool room. Choose a leader to facilitate the activity. The activity is designed to introduce kids to the Bible story and Big Idea for the day.

I SPY

Supplies: Jesus picture (1)

Preparation: Print out the provided picture of Jesus and tape it to a wall in the preschool room.

Directions: Play a game of “I Spy” with the children. Secretly pick an object in the room, then provide a clue as to who or what it is. For example, say “I spy with my little eye something red.” Keep giving clues and allowing children to guess until they get it right. For the final round, spy the picture of Jesus. You can say, “I spy a picture;” then, “I spy a picture of a man;” then, “I spy a picture of a man with brown hair,” etc. Continue until the picture is found.

Say: Great job — you spied Jesus! That was just a warm-up. Today we’re going to spy some things that help us tell our true Bible story. We’re going to learn that **Jesus can do anything!**

Question: What do you think is the hardest thing in the world to do? Do you think Jesus could do that?

2s & 3s – Large Group at 10:55
Pre-K & K – Large Group at 11:15



★ SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

GOTCHA (Application Activity)

Supplies: None

Directions: Have the children lay on the floor and pretend to be sleeping. If you shout, “Little girl, get up!,” the children must race to jump up and shout, “Jesus can do anything!” If you yell anything else, the children must stay asleep and shouldn’t move a muscle. If any children move when they’re not supposed to, say to them, “Gotcha!” To make it more challenging, shout things that sound similar to “Little girl, get up!” (See the list below for examples.) Alternate between saying the right words and the wrong words.

- Little turtle, spit up.
- Middle girl, sun cup.
- Little pearl, feet up.
- Skittle girl, get a pup.
- It’ll twirl, grownup.
- Little swirl, heads up.
- Brittle burl, speed up.
- Little girl, get some makeup.

Say: In our story for today, the little girl wasn’t just asleep, she was dead. But when Jesus said, “Little girl, get up!,” she came back to life and hopped to her feet. It was a miracle — something only Jesus can do!

Question: Jesus can do anything! How do you think Jesus could help *you* with His power?

BALLOON VOLLEYBALL (Bible Memorization Activity)

Supplies: Chairs (2 per group), string (8 feet per group), balloon (1 per group)

Preparation: Place two chairs about 7 to 8 feet apart. Tie a string between the two chairs. The string should be about 2–3 feet above the ground. This will serve as a makeshift volleyball net.

Today’s Bible verse:

“With people (*point to all the children*),
this is impossible (*two thumbs down and shake head “no”*).
But with God (*point up*),
all things are possible (*two thumbs up and shake head “yes”*).”
Matthew 19:26 (*extend hands like you’re holding a book*).

Directions: Practice the above verse with the children a few times. When ready, divide the children into two teams and have each team sit facing each other on opposite sides of the string. Toss the inflated balloon to one team and have them bop it over the string to the other team. (It may take more than one bop to get the balloon over the string. That’s okay.) Each time someone on either team bops the balloon, have all of the children say one word from the Bible verse (hand motions are not necessary). Continue bopping the balloon back and forth until the entire verse has been recited. If the balloon touches the ground before the verse is finished, pick it up and start over from the beginning.

7.1 Small Group Lesson | Pre-K & K



ANIMAL CROSSING (Bible Story Review Activity)

Supplies: Animal Number signs (1 set per group)

Preparation: Print out the provided Animal Number signs and tape them to the walls around the room.

Directions: Each sign will have an animal and a number on it. Move with the children to the first sign as if you were that animal. For example, move like a hippo to sign #1. When you reach the sign, ask the children what happened first in the Bible story. Try to limit the children to sharing only the beginning of the story. Next, move with the children to the second sign like the animal indicated and ask what happened second in the story. Continue moving to the different numbers until the entire story has been told.

HELP ME JESUS (Response to God Activity)

Supplies: GO! Home Guide (printed on back of coloring sheet, 1 per child), crayons

Directions: Give each child a GO! Home Guide and some crayons or markers. The sheet will have a space for children to draw. Tell the children to think of something they need Jesus to help them with. Have them draw a picture of it. When finished, ask the children to show their pictures and to tell everyone what they need help with.

Say: Jesus can do anything. He has the power to make a dead girl come alive, and He has the power to help us too! We're going to say a prayer to Jesus. Let's tell Him what we need help with and ask Him to use His power to help us.

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 asking Jesus to use His power to help the children in the ways they talked about.

Question: What was your favorite part of this story? Why did you like that part?

Question: Do you think there is anything too hard for Jesus to do? (Answer: No! **Jesus can do anything.**)

When you hear the first names be called, that is when the last song has started. Go ahead and finish up your activity and get the kids ready to go. This is a great time to turn on Topher Time with the iPad on the TV, so they can watch while kids are getting picked up, and the room stays clean. 😊