

## WEEK 5 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



### THE BIG IDEA

Following God makes us stand out.

### THE BIBLE

**Jesus Leaves His Hometown:**  
Luke 4:22-30

## WELCOME TIME

### MUSIC | Praise Gallery

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs you like best, but here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
  - "Every Move I Make" (CJ and Friends)
  - "Guess What" (Kidspring)
  - "God Loves Me Specially" (Orange Music)
  - "You Change Me" (People of the Earth)
  - "Dive In" (Kidspring)

### ACTIVITY | Zoo Animal Search

- Welcome to a day at the museum! Today, we'll be touring a zoo, but some of the zoo animals seem to be hiding in their habitats! Let's see how quickly we can spot all the zoo animals that are hiding.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have as many kids come to the front as there are hidden object search canisters. Call out an animal you're looking for on your checklist. The kid who finds it will show it to you, then tag in another kid to take their place. Continue until all animals have been found and checked off! Play fun music and keep it fast paced! You may want to be strategic about the order of animals on the list and which animals are in which canister.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Play a game of [hot and cold](#) with stuffed animals that you hide around the room.

### ACTIVITY | What Do I Smell?

- One thing that we can all agree on when it comes to zoos is that they can really smell! In this exhibit, we will test your sense of smell!
- There are different scent stations around the exhibit. Visit each station, and take a whiff of the scent. You'll have to guess what you think it smells like, and write down your guess on the provided paper.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up four scent stations around the room. The idea is to have similar scents at all stations except for one station. Supply each scent station with cups of the scent, a jar, paper, and pencils. Preschoolers will guess what they are smelling. Have a leader at each station to write down their guesses. Put guesses in the jar. After a set time, gather the kids back together, and reveal the scents. (Note: Be aware of kids who may have a sensitivity to smells or essential oils. Don't let preschoolers hold scent cups.)
- That was a really fun experience for our noses! **Did any of the smells stand out to you? Why or why not?**

## TEACHING TIME

### BIBLE STORY | Jesus Leaves His Hometown

- Welcome, explorers! I have loved being your tour guide for the Bible story exhibits and exploring how we can experience God through our senses!
  - [Point to eyes.] We've seen how John the Baptist prepared people to see Jesus.
  - [Point to ears.] We heard an amazing story of Jesus being baptized.
  - [Point to mouth.] Then, we got a taste of God's power through Jesus turning water into a fancy party punch.
  - [Hug yourself.] Last time, we got a feel for how else we can know God!
- [Point to nose.] Today we are going to talk about something that stands out, like a strong smell!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create an [angry face](#) and an [amazed face](#) using paper or paper plates as you tell the story from Luke 4:22–30. Talk about the different ways the crowd reacted to Jesus.
- Today's Bible story is an interactive exhibit – which means I need your help! Whenever I hold up this “amazed” face, show me your most amazed faces! When I hold up this “angry” face, go ahead and make an angry face! Are you ready?
- So we're looking at what happened right after Jesus taught in the synagogue (which is kind of like a church, remember?). Jesus had just finished telling the people that the Bible was talking about him. He was the one prophets like Isaiah had been writing about. [Hold up “amazed” face.]
- Jesus had been teaching to the people at a town called Nazareth. The cool part is, this is where Jesus grew up. [Hold up “amazed” face.]
- But because many of them knew Jesus from when he was younger, they couldn't believe that someone like him could be what the prophet Isaiah wrote about a long time ago. [Hold up “angry” face.]
- Because they didn't really believe, they wanted proof. They heard that Jesus had done amazing things in other places. [Hold up “amazed” face.]

- But Jesus told them that he wouldn't give them any special treatment just because it was his hometown. That made lots of people upset. [*Hold up "angry" face.*]
- After that, Jesus left Nazareth and continued to tell people about God in other places.

### BIG IDEA | Following God makes us stand out.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Invite a volunteer to open the art tube and pull out the Big Idea butcher paper. Unroll and lay the paper on the floor. Let kids come up and paint the entire paper with watercolor paint to reveal the Big Idea.*
- Today's Big Idea is . . . **following God makes us stand out.**
- That means people are going to notice us whenever we say things or do things that show that we believe in God. That's a wonderful thing!

### VIDEO | A Day at the Museum, Episode 5

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).*

### ACTIVITY | Stand Out and Grow

- We talked today about how **following God makes us stand out**. It's totally worth it to stand out for God, even if other people don't like it.
- Speaking of standing out, I have a cool trick to show you! Drop this little capsule into your cup of water and let's see it grow!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Provide a small cup of warm water and a [grow in water capsule](#) for each preschooler. Instruct them not to touch or drink the water and to not do anything with the capsule until you say so.*
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Demonstrate this for toddlers instead of having them handle water and capsules on their own. Let them play with the animal once it's full size.*
- We don't have to hide what we know about God. When we share with others about God, it helps us grow!

### PRAYER

- Dear God, Thank you for always being with us. We know we are never alone – even when we stand out from the crowd. Help us to always be brave for you. Amen.

## DISCUSSION TIME

### SNACK | Snack Stack

- **Following God makes us stand out and** today your snacks are going to stand tall! We can stand tall and be proud of who God made us to be. Standing tall for God is the best way to live! Now let's see how tall you can build your snack before you eat it!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Provide preschoolers with a paper plate full of an assortment of snack items that can be stacked up. Things like Cheerios, cheese crackers, and square slices of fruit will work great!*

### ACTIVITY | Zoo Animal Charades

- It's a great day at the zoo today, don't you think? You know, the only thing that's missing is the live animals. Could you help me with that? I want each of you to take a turn acting like a zoo animal!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Make your own or print and cut out [these](#) zoo animal pictures. Fold them up and place them in a jar. Invite preschoolers, one at a time, to pick a picture from the jar. Explain to them the game of Charades and ask them to act out whatever animal is on their picture. The rest of the class will guess what animal they are acting out.*
- Wow! Great job, friends! Each of those animals has something special that makes them stand out! Whether it's the giraffe's really long neck, or the ferocious roar of the lion, God made the animals all so unique!
- You know who else stands out? YOU DO! God made YOU special, too!
- **What are some ways that you stand out?**
- Wow! You are all so special! When we follow God we can also grow in love, kindness, and joy and those things will make us stand out in the best way!
- **Following God makes us stand out!**

### ACTIVITY | Love For All

- Jesus wanted everyone to know that God loves everyone. This really made him stand out! You know what else? We get to love everyone, too! This kind of love will make us stand out in a crowd!
- **How did the people react after Jesus taught in the synagogue?** Yes, that's right. They became angry.
- **Do you remember what happened to Jesus when people got mad at him for this?** That's right. He left his hometown.
- **Did Jesus stop loving everyone because some people became angry with him and made him go away?** No way! He may have left his hometown, but he never stopped loving people. That's pretty amazing!
- Let's try an activity that will remind us of God's gigantic love for everyone!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Draw a large heart on a poster board. Provide magazine clippings (or images printed from the computer) of people of different demographics. Have kids glue the photos of the people inside the heart.*
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Read the book "[My Heart is Like a Zoo](#)" (or show a [video](#)). Tell toddlers we are all different but God loves all of us the same!*

### MEMORY VERSE | Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids take turns standing up and repeating the memory verse. Optional: Before they say the verse, call out a zoo animal that the person has to act like as they say the verse.*
- **Following God makes us stand out.** So let's all sit down and take turns standing up to say the memory verse. Be willing to stand out from the crowd!

## PLAY TIME

*While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .*

### ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute this week's coloring page, along with crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as kids color!*

### ACTIVITY | Smelly Stickers

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Provide preschoolers with blank paper and a variety of animal scratch-and-sniff stickers. Invite them to stick the stickers on paper.*
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Toddlers may have a hard time getting stickers off a sticker sheet. You can take them off for them and stick them on the end of the table so they can grab them easily.*

### ACTIVITY | Play-Dough Scents

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Invite preschoolers to play with scented play dough. This can be store-bought or [homemade](#).*

*Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.*