

Story Discussion/Application

Bringing Jesus to Their Level

We've all struggled with asking our kids, "What did you learn today?" The typical answers I get are, "I can't remember," or, "Jesus." Here is a way to help them remember what they learned while reinforcing what it can mean to them.

For preschoolers, it's a good idea to recap the story a bit as you help them think about what it can mean to them (kindergartners are starting to think a bit deeper but it won't hurt for you to do this with them as well.)

Here's a dialog you can use with your kids and some questions you can ask to get them thinking:

Our Bible story, today, was about a man named Paul. Paul went to a city called Athens so he could teach the people about God and His Son, Jesus. He taught them that God made the whole world and everything in it, including people. He taught them that God loves people so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to be their friend forever. And guess what? A lot of the people believed in Jesus! You can read all about it in the Bible. *(Hold up the Bible.)*

Paul made sure to write down some of his story so you and I can believe in Jesus, too. **Who can believe in Jesus?** *(Pause.)*

You sure can! Our Bible verse even says that . . .

"These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God," John 20:31.

All of the stories in the Bible were written so that you and you and you *(point to each family member as you say, 'you')* can believe in Jesus. Let's stand up and say that verse together with the motions.

"These are written (open your hands like a book) so that you (point out) may believe (point to head) that Jesus is the Christ, (point up) the Son of God. (Rock baby.)" John 20:31. *(Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with the motions a few times.)*

I am so proud of you! You sound great! *(Give each family member a fist bump.)*

Now, let's sit down so we can talk to God.

God made the whole world and everything in it, including you and me. That's a lot of amazing things! I know it will be hard to pick just one thing, but I want us to make a list of our favorite things God made. Tell me one thing that God made that you just really love.

(Take turns answering. Write a list to help you remember what everyone says.)

This is an amazing list! We have food, animals, nature, and all kinds of wonderful things!

Before we pray, let me ask you a few questions.

(These questions may be more difficult for younger, preschool kids; they are designed to get kindergartners thinking.)

- How can we know that God made everything?
- How can we know that God sent us Jesus?
- Why do you think Paul didn't tell them about Jesus first?
- Who can you teach about Jesus?

Would you like to pray before I pray?

(Give your child an opportunity to pray if they want to.)

Prayer

Dear God, there is no one else like You. Only You could make the whole world and everything in it. Only You could make people. Only You could make all of space and the stars, sun, moon, and planets. You are AMAZING, God! We want to thank You for some of our favorite things. *[Family member's name]* really likes *[item listed]*. *[Family member's name]* really likes *[item listed]*. *(Continue with each family member and what they listed)*. And most of all, thank You for loving us so much that You gave us Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen.