



WEEK 1

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE



THE BIG IDEA

Jesus takes care of me.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Heals Many People:
Mark 1:29-39; (Psalm 147:1-11, 20c)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC** | Worship Warm-Ups
- ACTIVITY** | Travel the Ball
- ACTIVITY** | House Goals

TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE** | Mark 1:29-39
- THE BIG IDEA** | Jesus takes care of me.
- VIDEO** | Challenge Accepted, Episode 1
- ACTIVITY** | Pump It Up
- PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- SNACK** | Soccer Sweets
- ACTIVITY** | Get In the House
- ACTIVITY** | Who Was It?
- MEMORY VERSE** | I John 5:5 (NIV)

PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- ACTIVITY** | Sports Medics
- ACTIVITY** | Bandage Collage



WEEK 1

HACKS FOR TODDLERS



BY KAREN ERNE

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

SNACK | Soccer Sweets

Break Oreo cookies into smaller pieces. Cover their plates with white frosting or icing. Give each kid a small cup of cookie chunks and let them arrange them on their place to create a soccer ball.

ACTIVITY | Get In the House

Have kids play with a small dollhouse and figurines. Say things like: "**Can you find all the people in the dollhouse?** This one isn't feeling well, let's put her in a nice place to rest. We can ask Jesus to make her feel all better."

ACTIVITY | Sports Medics

Prepare a set of play doctor tools (e.g., stethoscope, tweezers, syringe, etc.). Before the kids arrive, trace the toys onto a poster board. Have kids find the tool that fits in each outline.



WEEK 1

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

Jesus takes care of me.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Heals Many People:
Mark 1:29-39; (Psalm 147:1-11, 20c)

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Worship Warm-Ups

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Consider creating a fun worship environment by playing a worship playlist as kids walk in or play freely before your program begins. We recommend [these songs of silliness!](#)

ACTIVITY | Travel the Ball

- Today we're going to find out that people traveled from all over town to go to where Jesus was. Let's see how well we can travel around our "town!"
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use classroom chairs as obstacles and use masking tape on the floor to make a simple obstacle course for the kids to follow. Set up a basketball hoop, if available, at the end of the course (or put a trash bin on a chair). Have kids carry a basketball the entire time as they go through the obstacle course and make their shot.

ACTIVITY | House Goals

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Draw some faces on [beanbags](#). Make a house out of shoeboxes by taping 4-6 shoeboxes together to create the rooms and making a roof by taping two lids together (kind of [like this](#)). Prop your house against a wall or lay it flat on the ground and have kids aim their beanbag "people." See if they can get the kids to specific "room" in the house for an added challenge!
- Our Bible story is about how Jesus was asked to come to Simon's house because they needed his help. We got all the beanbags into the house, just like Jesus and his friends went inside Simon's house!

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | Mark 1:29-39

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Get a Bible, toy thermometer, and crutches (or something that can act as a cane). Hold the Bible in your lap.
- So, in our story, Jesus was all done teaching in the synagogue, which is like a church building. Then, Jesus went to the house of Simon, who was a friend of Jesus. When Jesus got there, Jesus saw Simon's mother-in-law was sick. Oh, no! She had a fever (*Hold up toy thermometer*). Everyone put your hand on your forehead like you're feeling for a fever.
- Simon's mother-in-law was lying down. Jesus reached out and held her hands and helped her stand up. Jesus made her fever go away. Jesus made her all better! She even started bringing Jesus and Jesus' friends food and took care of them.
- People all over town heard that Jesus was able to help people who were sick. So the whole town came to Jesus to be made better. Some people who came to Jesus couldn't walk (*Walk with crutches or cane*) but Jesus made them able to walk again (*Gently toss crutches or cane aside*).
- Even when Jesus left that house, the people followed Jesus. They knew Jesus would take care of them. And guess what? He did!

THE BIG IDEA | Jesus takes care of me.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create a [pennant banner](#) each week using colorful paper and a long piece of string. Write one word of the Big Idea on each triangle. Hang it up backwards before the kids arrive, then flip it over for the Big Idea reveal. You could also gather some [pom-poms](#) or make your own with streamers taped to the end of straws. Make sure to have enough for every kid to have at least one.
- Let's shout out today's Big Idea cheer: **Jesus takes care of me!**

VIDEO | Challenge Accepted, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's preschool [teaching video](#).

ACTIVITY | Pump It Up

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have a fully deflated basketball and basketball pump close by. You might want to ask another leader to help you pump the ball while you talk because it would take a while. Alternatively, you can use a [beach ball](#) that looks like a basketball.
- **Have any of you ever played with a basketball before?** Well, I have a basketball here that I'm pretty excited about. It's brand new!
 - **Do you want to see it?** (*Pull out the deflated ball.*)
 - **Do you think I can dribble this ball?** (*Try to dribble the ball and let it drop to the ground.*)
 - **Do you want to try?** (*Let kids try and bounce the ball.*)
 - **Why can't we play with this ball?**
- I guess it would be pretty hard to play with a ball that's flat like this one. But wait, I think I have

something that can help. (Pull out the basketball pump and begin pumping air into the ball. Let kids take turns to try and pump air into the ball, too.)

- This basketball is kind of like us. Sometimes when we are feeling sick, sad, or worried, it's kind of like we are losing air.
- But when we get like that, there is someone who fills us back up – Jesus. Jesus makes us feel better when we are sick, and also when we are feeling down! **Jesus takes care of me.**

PRAYER

- Dear God, I am so glad you take care of me. You have given us all family and friends who care about us, and you gave us Jesus who came to Earth to save us. Thank you, Jesus. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Soccer Sweets

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a green paper plate containing 2-3 Oreo cookies. Have them pull the cookie apart and lay them flat on their plates. On the side that has more cream, have them add chocolate chips to create a soccer ball. Let them add green sprinkles to make their plate look like a soccer field.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Break Oreo cookies into smaller pieces. Cover their plates with white frosting or icing. Give each kid a small cup of cookie chunks and let them arrange them on their place to create a soccer ball.
- **What was today's Big Idea?**
- **Do any of you know how to play soccer (football)?**
- **How does a coach take care of the team?**
- **How do the players help each other so their team can score goals?**

ACTIVITY | Get In the House

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up a [pop up tent](#) or large appliance box.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Have kids play with a small dollhouse and figurines and pretend to take care of them.
- Let's see how many kids we can fit into our pretend house.
- Whoa! That is a lot of kids in the pretend house! I don't think we can fit anymore. Let's take turns so we can all try fitting inside the house.
- I'm sure once people found out what Jesus could do, they all wanted to come inside the house, too!
- **Who did the people want to get into the house to see?**
- **Did Jesus make the sick people all better?**
- **Who takes care of me?**

ACTIVITY | Who Was It?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and cut the [Who Was It printable](#).

- There are three balls here. This football has “Jesus” on it. This baseball has “Simon” on it. This basketball has “woman” written on it. I will ask a question, and you will point to the ball with the answer – Jesus, Simon, or woman.
- **Whose house did Jesus go to?** (*Simon.*)
- **Who was so sick and had a fever?** (*Woman.*)
- **Whose mother-in-law was the woman?** (*Simon.*)
- **Who made the sick person all better?** (*Jesus.*)
- **Who got better and started serving food?** (*Woman.*)
- **Who made even more people all better?** (*Jesus.*)
- **Who cares for me?** (*Jesus.*)

MEMORY VERSE | I John 5:5 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split up I John 5:5 into four parts and write them down on four separate pieces of paper. Hand them out to four volunteers who will stand in each corner of the room in a traditional baseball diamond layout. As the kids run the bases, tell them to repeat the part of the memory verse each adult tells them.

PLAY TIME

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

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide this week's coloring page and some crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story and Big Idea as the kids color.

ACTIVITY | Sports Medics

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have a variety of stuffed animals and/or plastic baby dolls, gauze, wet wipes, and a [toy doctor's kit](#) for the kids to play with.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Prepare a set of play doctor tools (e.g., stethoscope, tweezer, syringe, etc.). Before the kids arrive, trace the toys onto a poster board. Have kids find the tool that fits in each outline.

ACTIVITY | Bandage Collage

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Gather a variety of [bandages](#) in different shapes and colors, along with some markers. Have them decorate a [person cut-out](#) using the bandages (e.g., make their clothes) and also draw the face.

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