



Summer Quarter, Week 13

you can Follow Jesus!

Your Children Will Learn:

- ☉ Jesus loves children
- ☉ Jesus loves you

MEMORY VERSE FOR UNIT 12



**"Big crowds
came to Jesus.
Many of them
followed Jesus."**

MATTHEW 4:25

Turn to Page 138 for
Memory Verse Center tips and
suggestions.

truth for your children

Today's Bible Passage: Mark 9:33-37; 10:13-16; John 4:46-53

Jesus and his disciples came to a house in Capernaum. There he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet. On the way, they had argued about which one of them was the most important person. Jesus sat down and called for the Twelve to come to him. Then he said, "If you want to be first, you must be the very last. You must be the servant of everyone." Jesus took a little child and had the child stand among them. Then he took the child in his arms. He said to them, "Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me. And anyone who welcomes me doesn't welcome only me but also the One who sent me." ...People were bringing little children to Jesus. They wanted him to touch them. But the disciples told the people to stop. When Jesus saw this, he was angry. **[continued on page 138]**

truth for you...A Meditation for Leaders

Wherever Jesus went, He was followed by large crowds of people. From city to city, they gathered and waited for Him to appear. In one city, there was a man who was a royal official. He heard that Jesus was there and that He healed people. So the man went to see Jesus because his son was very sick and dying. The man kept begging Jesus to come home with him to heal his son. He didn't give up his pleading. Finally, Jesus told the man that he could go home and that his son would live. It's easy for us to give up praying for someone who is sick, or needs help. In spite of the crowds, Jesus heard this man pleading with Him over and over again. The man didn't give up asking Jesus for what he needed. Don't give up asking Jesus for what you need. He hears you, too. "God's chosen people cry out to Him, day and night. Won't He make things right for them? Will He keep putting them off? I tell you, God will see that things are made right for them. He will make sure it happens quickly." (Luke 18:7-8)



Truth for your children

Today's Bible Passage

Mark 9:33-37; 10:13-16;

John 4:46-53

continued from page 137

He said to his disciples, "Let the little children come to me. Don't keep them away. God's kingdom belongs to people like them. What I'm about to tell you is true. Anyone who will not receive God's kingdom like a little child will never enter it." Then he took the children in his arms. He put his hands on them and blessed them. ...Once more, Jesus visited Cana in Galilee. Cana is where he had turned the water into wine. A royal official was there. His son was sick in bed at Capernaum. The official heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea. So he went to Jesus and begged him to come and heal his son. The boy was close to death. Jesus told him, "You people will never believe unless you see miraculous signs and wonders." The royal official said, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus replied, "You may go. Your son will live." The man believed what Jesus said, and so he left. While he was still on his way home, his servants met him. They gave him the news that his boy was living. He asked what time his son got better. They said to him, "The fever left him yesterday afternoon at one o'clock." Then the father realized what had happened. That was the exact time Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So he and all his family became believers.

Leaders: Pray

Ten minutes before the children arrive, gather together to pray for your class time. Invite the Holy Spirit's presence and ask Him to fill you up.

Greet the children and Parents

**Greet one
another with
a kiss of love.**
Romans 16:16

Greet each child by name as they arrive. Learn the names of their parents, too.

Give children visiting for the first time a small gift such as a special sticker or a colorful bookmark. Welcome the children to your classroom and introduce yourself to their parents.

creative Activity centers 40 min.

Choose two or three activities from the Table-Top Activity Guide. The Activity Guide on page 139 has everything you need to provide hands-on, creative activities that directly reinforce the lesson. Make open-ended play centers (such as blocks, housekeeping and imaginative dress-up) available as well.

Memory verse center . . . 3-5 min.

Practice the verse together every week during activity center time, small group time or before worship time.

Here is a tip: This is the week the children will each try to say the verse for you. Have them say it together as a class or individually. Reward them with a prize from a treasure box or with a special sticker.

**"Big crowds came
to Jesus. Many of
them followed
Jesus."**
Matthew 4:25

clean up and Prepare for worship . . . 5 min.

time to worship! (10 min.)

- ☉ If you have a worship team to lead the children, gather everyone together to praise Jesus!
- ☉ If you lead worship, learn one or two simple songs. Allow time for children to share praises and prayers. Dance, sing, worship!



- ☉ Model worship for the children by being an active participant!



Table-Top Activity Guide

Week 13: You Can Follow Jesus!

1. Memory Verse Booster:

Copy the memory verse on cardstock and cut it out. Color the big letters with markers or crayons. Spread white glue on the letters and sprinkle rice grains on the glue.

What's the Point?: Continue to help the children learn their Bible verse. As they are working, go from child to child and read the verse to them. Ask them to repeat it back to you. Say to the children, **"Big crowds came to Jesus. Many of them followed Jesus."** (Matthew 4:25)

Supplies:

- Memory verse from the **Pattern Pages** copied on cardstock
- Markers and crayons
- White glue in small cups
- Rice in small bowls
- Q-tips

2. "Jesus Loves Me" coloring Page:

Copy the coloring page with the words to "Jesus Loves Me" on white paper. The children can color the pictures with markers and crayons. Please see the **Pattern Pages** for complete directions.

What's the Point?: You can read the words to this familiar children's song, and then you can sing it with the children as they are working! Say to the children: **"Jesus loves children; Jesus loves you."**

Supplies:

- "Jesus Loves Me" coloring page from the **Pattern Pages** copied on white paper
- Markers and crayons

Note to Leaders:

Please choose 2 or 3 table-top activities.

Most of the activities can be adapted for any age.

Have fun!

Let the children do it!

Don't forget to copy...



3. Following Feet word Picture:

Copy the word picture in the **Pattern Pages** on cardstock. Color the words with markers and crayons. Trace around the children's feet on construction paper and cut them out. Tape yarn to the feet and tape the other end of the yarn to the picture so the feet dangle. Please see the **Pattern Pages** for complete directions.

What's the Point?: This activity will remind the children that their own feet can follow Jesus. Say to the children: **"Jesus loves children; Jesus loves you."**

Supplies:

- Word picture from the **Pattern Pages** copied on cardstock

- Markers and crayons
- Colorful construction paper
- Yarn

4. "Jesus Loves Me" Heart:

Copy the heart from the **Pattern Pages** on white paper. Glue pieces of torn tissue paper all over the heart, completely covering it. Let the tissue paper pieces overlap each other to make other colors. Cut out the heart and punch a hole at the black dot, and tie a piece of yarn through the hole so the children can hang it in a window at home. See the **Pattern Pages** for complete directions.

What's the Point?: There is no message in the entire Bible that will change the hearts of your children like this one: "Jesus loves you!" Look each child in the eyes and tell them: **"Jesus loves children; Jesus loves you."**

Supplies:

- Heart from the **Pattern Pages** copied on white paper
- Glue sticks
- Colorful tissue paper
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Yarn



"I can Do That!"

**EASY IDEAS FOR
CREATIVE STORYTELLING:**
Mark 9:33-37; 10:13-16;
John 4:46-53

10 minutes (Age 3)
15 minutes (Ages 4 & 5)

"Great" Medals!

When we receive a medal, it makes us feel important and great! Give the children three special medals while you are telling the story. The medals will remind them that Jesus thinks they are important and great!

- Copy the medals from the Pattern Pages on colorful cardstock. Please see the complete directions on page 148.
- Pass out the medals to the children during the story. Look for the prompts for medal #1, medal #2 and medal #3 in the story.
- After the story, string each child's medals on yarn to make a necklace so they can wear them home.

Story Time introduction

Hi boys and girls! We have been having so much fun learning about people who followed Jesus. We've learned about the large crowds of people who came to see Jesus. Many of them followed Jesus. We learned about a little man named Zacchaeus who wanted to see Jesus too. He was so short he had to climb a big tree to see Him. Zacchaeus followed Jesus. And, last week we learned about a woman and a little girl that were healed by Jesus. They both followed Jesus, too.

Well, our story today is all about children. Did you know that children can follow Jesus? Jesus loves children! Jesus thinks children are great!

Bible Story

Storyteller: The lesson from the Bible starts here. See the "I Can Do That" sidebar on this page for storytelling ideas.

One day, Jesus and His special friends traveled to the city of Capernaum. They went to stay at a house there. All of them sat down and rested for a while. They were very tired from all their traveling.

Jesus asked His special friends a question. He said, "I heard you guys arguing with one another while we were walking down the road. What were you arguing about?" Jesus special friends became very quiet. Not one of them answered His question.

But, Jesus knew what they had been arguing about. They were arguing about which one of them was the greatest person. Jesus said to them, "If you really want to be great, then you need to serve people. You need to think of other people first and think of yourself last. You need to think about how you can help other people. Then you'll be great."

Jesus saw some little children who were playing close by. Jesus went and got one of the little children. He brought the little child over to where His special friends were sitting. Then, Jesus bent down and picked up the little child and held him in His arms.

Jesus said, "If you welcome a little child like this, you are welcoming Me. And if you welcome Me, then you are welcoming God." Jesus said this to His special friends because children are important to Him. He wanted them to think about little children first, because they're the greatest! Jesus loves children! Jesus thinks children are great! **(medal #1)**

**JESUS
LOVES
CHILDREN**

**JESUS
LOVES
YOU**

Story time [cont.]

On another day, Jesus was very busy teaching a large crowd of people. Some people brought their little children with them. They were bringing them right up to where Jesus was teaching. They wanted Jesus to talk to their children and pray for them.

Jesus' special friends saw the people coming with their children. They told them to stop! They were mad at the people for bringing their children up to see Jesus. He was busy teaching the people. When Jesus saw what was happening, He was very angry with His special friends. He said, "No! Don't stop them! Let the little children come and see Me! God's kingdom belongs to them! God's kingdom belongs to people who are like these little children!"

Then Jesus opened up His arms and all the little children ran to Him. He gave them a great, big group hug and welcomed them. After the great, big group hug, Jesus spent time talking with each one of the children. He held them on His lap, and prayed for them. Jesus loves children! Jesus thinks children are great! **(medal #2)**

Well, Jesus and His special friends continued to travel all over to many cities. This time, they stopped in the city of Cana. They had visited there before. There was a man who heard that Jesus healed people. His little boy was very sick. He was close to dying. So, the man went to see Jesus. He asked Jesus to come home with him and heal his little boy. The man kept asking Jesus over and over again.

The man said, "Please, please come with me before my little boy dies." Jesus said, "You can go back home to your little boy. He will live!" The man knew that what Jesus said was true.

The man left and quickly walked back to his home. While he was on his way, his servants met up with him. They told the man that his little boy was all better! The man said, "What time did he get better?" The servants said, "It was right after lunch time yesterday." The man knew that was the exact time that Jesus said, "He will live!" His little boy was all better because Jesus healed him! So, the man and his little boy and everyone else who lived at his house, followed Jesus. They all believed in Jesus!

You see boys and girls, Jesus loves children! Children are important to Him! And, Jesus loves you! Each and every one of you! Jesus thinks you're great! **(medal #3)**

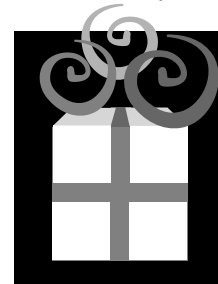
Go to "Wrap It Up!" in the sidebar.

Great Big Holy Bible

The text and pictures in the Great Big Holy Bible follow your Bible lesson closely.

You may choose to use it during the Bible lesson segment of your class, or use it at the end to reinforce your dramatic storytelling.

wrap it up!



Storyteller:
If you are teaching 3's, simply repeat the points to them one more time. If you are teaching 4's

and 5's, repeat the points AND use these questions to help the children relate the story to their own lives.

Today we learned that:

☉ **Jesus loves children.**

(What did Jesus say about children? What did He do with the children?)

☉ **Jesus loves you.**

(What do you think Jesus would say to you? What do you think Jesus would do with you?)



GAMES

"JESUS LOVES CHILDREN!"

- ☉ Help the children that are playing form a circle. Have an adult stand in the middle of the circle and pretend to be Jesus.
- ☉ "Jesus" can say, "Jesus Loves Children!"
- ☉ The children will walk around "Jesus" and sing the chorus of, "Jesus Loves Me."
- ☉ Then, "Jesus" can say, "Jesus loves you" pointing to one of the children in the circle. Have that child stand in the middle of the circle and pretend to be Jesus. Start the game over from the beginning.
- ☉ Continue playing as long as the children are interested.

Snack Time.....10 min.

Small Groups.....5-10 min.

How to Make it happen:

Divide the children into small groups.

- 1. Say:** Today we learned that Jesus loves children and that Jesus loves you.
- 2. Ask:** Did Jesus have time for the children? Does Jesus have time for you? How can you spend time with Jesus?
- 3. Pray:** Dear God, thank You that Jesus loves children and thank You that Jesus love me! Amen.

The Purpose of Small Groups:

**TO BUILD
RELATIONSHIPS WITH
THE CHILDREN**

**TO RECAP THE LESSON
OR POINTS**

**TO REVIEW THE
MEMORY VERSE
TOGETHER**

Time to Go!

Dismiss the children to parents or guardians only! Keep our children safe!

Please Remember!

Photocopy "The Home Page" before church. Hand it to the parents when they pick up their children.

**JESUS
LOVES
CHILDREN**

**JESUS
LOVES
YOU**



...see page 143



Summer Quarter, week 13

you can Follow Jesus

Your Children Will Learn: ☺ Jesus loves children
☺ Jesus loves you

Memory verse
for unit 12

"Big crowds
came to Jesus.
Many of them
followed
Jesus."

Matthew 4:25

MONDAY

Read & Do

Read Mark 9:33-37; 10:13-16; John 4:46-53. Ask your child, "Did Jesus have time for the children? Does Jesus have time for you? How can you spend time with Jesus?"

TUESDAY

Art

Spread washable paint on a cookie sheet. Let your child step into the paint with bare feet. Then let them walk all over a large sheet of paper to make a footprint picture. Talk about the Bible story and the people who followed Jesus. Ask, "What do you think it means to follow Jesus?"

WEDNESDAY

Pray & Praise

Sing "Jesus Loves Me" with your child. Talk about how much Jesus loves children and how important they are to Him. Then praise Jesus, and thank Him for His love for all of you!

THURSDAY

out & About

Jesus was always welcoming to people. But He told us that when we welcome a child, we welcome Him and we welcome God! As you are running errands or taking your child to the park, be welcoming to the children you see. Children are important to Jesus. He thinks they are great! You can make your child and the children you see feel important!

FRIDAY

Play

Cut out enough paper feet to make a trail around your house while your child is napping. When your child wakes up, have them follow the trail of paper feet. End the trail with a surprise for your child such as a paper heart that says, "Jesus Loves You!" Talk about what it means to follow Jesus.

SATURDAY

just for Parents...

Wherever Jesus went, He was followed by large crowds of people. From city to city, they gathered and waited for Him to appear. In one city, there was a man who was a royal official. He heard that Jesus was there and that He healed people. So the man went to see Jesus because his son was very sick and dying. The man kept begging Jesus to come home with him to heal his son. He didn't give up his pleading. Finally, Jesus told the man that he could go home and that his son would live. It's easy for us to give up praying for someone who is sick, or needs help. In spite of the crowds, Jesus heard this man pleading with Him over and over again. The man didn't give up asking Jesus for what he needed. Don't give up asking Jesus for what you need. He hears you, too. "God's chosen people cry out to Him, day and night. Won't He make things right for them? Will He keep putting them off? I tell you, God will see that things are made right for them. He will make sure it happens quickly." (Luke 18:7-8)



Activity #1

Memory verse Booster

BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the verse on cardstock. Cut it out along the bold outline.

DURING CLASS:

- The children can color the big letters with markers or crayons. Spread white glue on the letters and sprinkle rice grains on the glue.

Cut out along the bold outline

BIG

CROWDS CAME TO JESUS.

MANY

OF THEM FOLLOWED JESUS.

Matthew 4:25

Activity #2

"Jesus Loves Me" coloring page

BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the picture with the words to the song on white paper. Cut it out along the bold outline.

DURING CLASS:

- The children can color the pictures with crayons. Read the words to the children while they are working. You may also choose to sing it together right at the table!

Cut out along the bold outline



Activity #3

Following Feet word picture

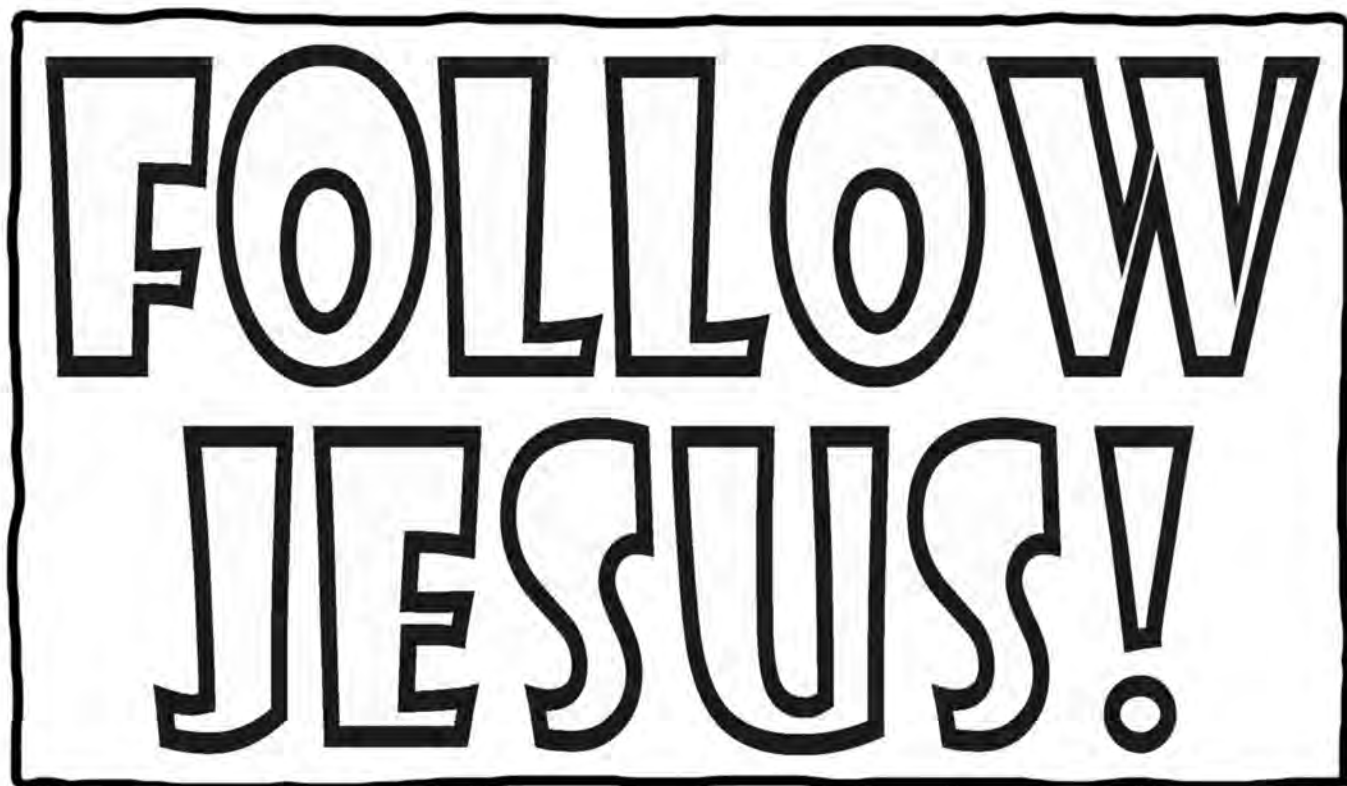
BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the word picture on cardstock. Cut out one per child along the bold outline.
- Cut three pieces of yarn, 4" long.

DURING CLASS:

- Have each child place one of their feet on a sheet of colorful construction paper folded in half. Trace around their foot. Cut out the tracing of the foot through both layers of the paper. You will have two cut out feet for the child.
- The children can color the word picture with markers and crayons.
- The children can color their feet with beautiful designs using markers and crayons.
- Tape the pieces of yarn to the heels of the feet and then tape them to the back of the word picture.
- Tape a loop of yarn to the back of the word picture at the top so it can be hung up.

Cut the traced feet out of colorful construction paper.
Tape yarn to each foot and tape the yarn to the word picture so the feet dangle.



Activity #4

"Jesus Loves Me" Heart

BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the heart on white paper. Do not cut it out.
- Tear or cut colored tissue paper into 1" squares.

DURING CLASS:

- The children can glue the tissue paper all over the heart, covering the words. They can use a Q-tip to spread the glue and smooth down the tissue paper.
- When the children are finished, cut out the heart along the bold outline.
- Punch a hole at the black dot. Tie a piece of yarn through the hole so it can hang in a window. The sun shining through will reveal the words, "Jesus Loves Me!"



Storytelling tips

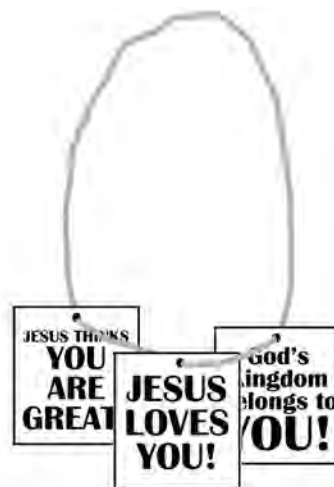
"Great" Medals

BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the three medals on colorful cardstock. Cut out one set for each child.
- Punch holes at the black dots.
- Cut yarn long enough to make a necklace that can easily slip over a child's head.

DURING CLASS:

- Follow the prompts in the story and pass out the three medals.
- After story time, string the three medals on a piece of yarn to make a necklace. Then the children can wear their three medals home.



Medal #1

Medal #2

Medal #3

