

PRAY:

Before you start, take a moment to pray together. Thank the Lord for His presence with you. Pray for each other, for extended family, for friends, for teachers, for anybody else who comes to mind. Pray for strength and health in our community.

But most of all, pray for your kids...that they would understand deep in their spirits that Jesus loves them and wants to be their Friend forever!

BIBLE STORY FOCUS:

I spy something that is real.
Jesus Prepares a Place
John 14:2-3;
Acts 1:1-11

MEMORY VERSE:

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

KEY QUESTION:

Who can believe in Jesus?

BOTTOM LINE:

I can believe in Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH:

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

ACTIVITY 1: CLOUD HOPPING VERSE

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper, crayons, or pictures of clouds

WHAT YOU DO: Make several papers with pictures of clouds on them. Lay the “Clouds” on the floor to create a path. Use the floor tape to secure them to the floor.

Line up the children near the path of cloud pages. Say the memory verse together as the children hop along the cloud path on the floor. Repeat as time and interest allow.

WHAT YOU SAY: “In our Bible story today, we learned that when Jesus was finished speaking to His friends, He went straight into the sky, through the clouds! What do you see on the floor? (Pause.) Clouds! Let’s hop on the clouds as we say our memory verse together.”

“These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, John 20:31. That was fun! Let’s hop and say it again.”

“This verse reminds us that we can believe in Jesus! The Bible tells us that Jesus has made a special place for us to live with him in heaven. Why? Because Jesus wants to be our friend forever! Who can believe in Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can believe in Jesus.”

ACTIVITY 1: HEAVEN BRAINSTORM

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper, crayons/markers

WHAT YOU DO: Gather the children. Have the children share some ideas of what they think heaven will be like. You can write statements on the page or draw simple pictures. Encourage the children to use their imaginations!

WHAT YOU SAY: “When Jesus left the earth, He went into the sky through the clouds. Where was Jesus going? (Pause.) Yes! Jesus went to heaven. Jesus is in heaven, right now, getting things ready for everyone who believes in Him.”

“What do you think heaven will be like? (Invite answers and write them down after each question.) I’ll write down your answers on our page. What do you think heaven will look like? What kinds of things will be there?”

“Wow! What a great list, friends. We can believe that heaven is real because that’s what Jesus said! And we can believe in Jesus because He always tells the truth. Everyone who believes in Jesus will get to be his friend forever and live with him in heaven one day. So, tell me, who can believe in Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can believe in Jesus.”

MEMORY VERSE

These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, John 20:31. (Close Bible and lay it down.)