January Week 4
Backyard
Clubhouse Clues

Ian 28

### **CRAFT WEEK 4**

# Story Circle

**SUPPLIES:** Story Circle, Son cut-out, crayons, brads

#### What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ Pass out the story circle and crayons.
  - "Today we heard a story Jesus told to teach us something very important. I
    have a story circle for you to make to help you to remember our story.
  - o Let's look at these pictures and color them!
- ⇒ Pass out a picture of the son. Then, help children secure the son to the center with a metal brad.
  - o "Here is the son in the story. Let's color him, too.
  - Now I am going to help you attach him to our story circle."
- ⇒ Use your own example craft to show the children how to retell the story.
  - "Look! The son can move around the circle with the pictures from our story. Let's start by putting the son next to the <u>dad</u>. The dad had saved a lot of money for his son to have when he was older, but the son wanted his money right then. So, the dad gave his son the money.
  - Move the son to the <u>money</u>. The son took the money and went far, far away.
     He spent his dad's money on everything!
  - Move the son to the <u>next picture</u>. He bought fancy clothes, ate really good food, and spent money with all his friends. He spent and spent until all his money was gone.
  - Move the son to the <u>next picture</u>. The money was all gone. He didn't have a bed to sleep in or food to eat. He was so hungry that he thought about eating pig food. The son knew he had made a lot of bad choices. He was so sorry and just wanted to go home.
  - Move the son to the <u>celebration</u>. "When his dad saw him coming home, he ran to him and hugged him. Then he threw a big party to celebrate. Move the son to the celebration. (Pause.) The dad was so glad that his son had come back home. He loved his son, even though he had made bad decisions and spent all the money. Jesus wants us to know that God loves us, even more than that! God loves us, no matter what.

#### ⇒ Complete activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus

- o "Jesus told us this story of a dad and his son to teach us that God loves us, no matter what. I'm so glad we have Jesus to teach us important things
- Who teaches you important things?
   Jesus teaches me important things!"

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### **ACTIVITY #1**

## Story Clues

**SUPPLIES:** 

Child size toy magnifying glasses, toy money, toy food, toy pigs, party horn, and toy heart in a bag

#### What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ Have children join you on the floor or around the table.
  - o "Friends! Come and sit with me as we retell the story Jesus told today.
- ⇒ Pull items out one at a time and explain them.
  - "I have some things from our Bible story today. Let's call them 'story toys' because they are toys that will help tell today's Bible story. I have: money, food, pigs, a party horn, and a heart.
  - I want you to listen with your best listening ears to what I say. When the time comes, I want you to point to the toy I'm talking about."

#### $\Rightarrow$ Retell the story.

- "In our Bible story today, a son asked his ad to give him all of the money he has saved for him. (Hold up, point to, or have one child stand up and hold the <u>money</u>.) The son took the money and went far, far away.
- The son spent his money on things like clothes and food. (Hold up, point to, or have one child stand up and hold the <u>food</u>.). The son kept spending money until all of it was gone. No more money meant to more food!
- So, the son got a job taking care of pigs. Oink oink! (Pigs.). The son was so hungry that he thought about eating the pigs' food. Yuck! But then the son thought that the people who worked for his dad have nice beds and plenty of food. Maybe he could go back home and work for his dad! SO the son went home.
- When the dad saw his son walking home, he ran to him and gave him a big hug because he loves his son so much! (<u>Heart</u>.).
- The dad was so happy he threw a big party. (Party horn.)
- ⇒ Repeat as long as children are interested and then Bring it Back to Jesus.
  - "Jesus told us this story about the dad and his son so we can know that God loves us, no matter what. Where can we read the stories that Jesus told? (Pause.) Yes, the Bible! Jesus teaches us important things in the Bible.
  - o Who teaches you important things?
  - o Jesus teaches me important things!"

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# ACTIVITY #2 Freeze Dance

**SUPPLIES:** CD player, EC Worship Music CD

#### What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ Have children join you in the center of the room and space out.
  - "When I think about all the amazing things Jesus has taught me I feel so happy. It makes me want to dance!! I am going to turn on a song and when you hear the music, I want you to DANCE! When the music stops, everyone FREEZE! Let's practice freezing right now. FREEZE!
  - o Great job! Are you ready to play? Let's go!
- ⇒ Play music and let kids dance. Pause music and have them freeze.
  - o "FREEZE!
  - o Who teaches you important things?
  - o Jesus teaches me important things!
  - Let's dance!
- ⇒ Repeat as long as children are interested.
- ⇒ Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.
  - "Great dancing, everyone! We have learned so many important things from Jesus. I am so grateful!
  - o Who teaches you important things?
  - o Jesus teaches me important things!

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# ACTIVITY #3 Pass the Magnifying Glass

**SUPPLIES:** Magnifying Glass, cd player, Worship Music CD, reward sticker

#### What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ Have children join you in a circle in the center of the room.
  - "Friends, come join me in a circle in the center of the room and have a seat. We are going to play a game that is similar to hot potato. I have a magnifying glass here because we've been finding Clubhouse clues this month! We are going to pass it around the circle while the music plays. When the music stops, if you have the magnifying glass you get to stand up and say the memory verse!
  - Let's practice the memory verse one time all together! 'The people were amazed at his teaching.' Matthew 7:28"
- ⇒ Push play on the music. Pass the magnifying glass around the circle. Pause the music and have the child holding the magnifying glass say the memory verse. You can also have them stand, but have all the children join them. Give each child a reward sticker for saying the memory verse.
  - "Alright let's play! I will push play on the music and let's pass the magnifying glass!"
- ⇒ Repeat until each child has had a turn.
- ⇒ Complete the activity and Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.
  - o "Nice work, my friends!
  - o Who teaches you important things?
  - o Jesus teaches me important things!"

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# READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY JANUARY WEEK 4

#### **PASS OUT MOON SAND**

#### READ

- ⇒ Beginner's Bible, p. 397
  - The Lost Son

#### **REVIEW** (You may choose to pass out stickers as kids answer!)

- ⇒Key Question and Bottom Line
  - O Who teaches you important things?
  - Jesus teaches me important things!
- ⇒ Memory Verse
  - "The people were amazed at his teaching."
     Matthew 7:28

#### **CONNECT IT AND PRAY**

- ⇒ "Because Jesus teaches us that God loves us, no matter what, today I am going to write each of your names down. Then, when I say your name, I want you to say, 'God loves me!' So, listen for your name and get ready to say, 'God loves me!'
  - Write their names down on the weekly question strip/board/paper.
- ⇒ God loves you! Let's pray!
- ⇒ Let's fold our hands and bow our heads and **pray**:
  - "Dear God, Thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever and teach us important things. I pray we will listen to what Jesus says and remember that You love us, no matter what. You are so good, God. In Jesus' name, amen."