

April Week 3

**Garden
SHINE**

April 21

CRAFT WEEK 3

I Can Do What Jesus Says Lantern

SUPPLIES:

I can do what Jesus says lantern, Yellow dot markers, Yellow Crayons, gold dot sticker strips

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children take a seat at the table. Pass out the lantern and place crayons, dot markers, gold stickers on the table.**
 - *“Friends, come sit at the table with me. Let’s make a craft to help us remember that we can shine our light! We’re learning that when we do what Jesus says, we shine our light for all to see. Let’s make a lantern to help us remember to shine our light. We can color the outside whatever color you like but be sure to use bright yellow and shiny stickers for the middle to make it light up.*

- ⇒ **Complete craft and have the children hold their lantern up. Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**
 - *“In our Bible Story today, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, to love people like He did. They shared what they had with people who needed food, clothes, money, and even places to stay. They were doing what Jesus said and loving like Him. They were shining their light! We can shine our light too because we can do what Jesus says too.*
 - ***Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.”***

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ACTIVITY #1

Sharing everything

SUPPLIES: Basket with toy food, plates/bowls/cups, clothing

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children join you in the center of the room. Go through the basket and show the kids what is in the basket.**
 - *“Friends, come join me in the center of the room! Today in our Bible Story, we learned about the early church. The people in the early church shared everything they had! They shared their food and their clothes. Look what I have in this basket! (Show them the food and clothing items.)*
 - *Today we are going to do a look and find with these items. I am going to hide them around the room and I want you to bring them back to the basket so we can share them!”*
- ⇒ **Have children close their eyes while you scatter the items. Have them find everything and come back together in the center of the room to pray.**
 - *“Alright everybody! Close your eyes while I hide these items!*
 - *Are you ready? Go find everything so that we can share them!*
 - *Great job! We have so many things we can share with each other. Do you know the other thing that the people in the early church did together? They prayed! Let’s say a special prayer together. Bow your heads, close your eyes, and repeat after me:*
 - *Dear God,*
Thank you for making me.
Thank you for loving me.
Thank you for sending Jesus to be my friend forever.
Amen
 - *Great job! When we share our things and pray together we are shining our light. We are doing what Jesus says! Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!*
- ⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested.**
- ⇒ **Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**
 - *“Today we learned that we can do what Jesus says and love like Jesus when we EAT together and SHARE with each other and PRAY together! And when we do that, we shine our light! Friends, tell me:*
Who can do what Jesus says?
I can do what Jesus says!”

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ACTIVITY #2

Kindness charades

SUPPLIES: kindness commands cards

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children sit in a circle in the middle of the room.**
 - *"Friends, come over here and let's play a game! I am going to pull a card out of my pile and call out a way we can love like Jesus and I want you to act it out! Let's shine our light!"*
- ⇒ **Call out a variety of "kindness" commands and act them out with the children.**
 - *Pick up our toys*
 - *Invite someone to play*
 - *Share a snack*
 - *Wave to a community helper*
 - *Share a toy*
 - *Cheer for a friend*
 - *Give a hug*
 - *Help someone carry something heavy*
 - *Share a snack*
 - *You pick! (share other ideas for ways to love like Jesus)*
- ⇒ **Let the children play until you have run out of ideas to act out!**
- ⇒ **Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**
 - *"In our true Bible story today, we learned that we can do what Jesus says and shine Jesus' light! We can love like Jesus and share his love with everyone! And when we do that, we are doing exactly what Jesus says!"*
 - ***Who can do what Jesus says?***
 - ***I can do what Jesus says!"***

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READ, ASK, PRACTICE, & PRAY
APRIL WEEK 3

Here are some ideas to try in a group or one-on-one.

2-year-olds are all at different stages of development! Some are ready to answer big questions and say the memory verse, while others aren't ready to talk yet. Even if they aren't ready to answer, they are listening!

READ A STORY

- *Jesus Loves Me* by Debby Anderson

ASK A QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

I can do what Jesus says!

PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine." Matthew 5:16

SAY A PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for making me.

Thank you for loving me.

Thank you for sending Jesus to be my friend forever.

Amen.