

April Week 4

**Backyard
SHINE**

April 28

CRAFT WEEK 4

You're a Star

SUPPLIES: Star cut out, yellow dot stickers, gold star stickers, yellow crayons, craft stick, clear tape

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children take a seat at the table. Pass out the star cut-out. Put crayons, gold star stickers, yellow dot stickers, etc on the table.**
- *“Today, we heard how we can shine like the stars. Let’s make our very own beautiful star to help us remember that we shine when we do what Jesus says.*
 - *Look at all these fun supplies I have for you to use! Decorate the side with no words on it.*
 - *Wow! Your stars are amazing! And they are all so wonderfully different!”*
- ⇒ **Pass out craft sticks. Help children secure craft stick to the back with tape.**
- *“Now, turn it over and let’s add a craft stick so it’s easier for you to hold.*
 - *Awesome job! When I say shine, I want you to hold your stars way up high. Ready? Shine! (Pause.) Look around at all these bright stars!”*
- ⇒ **Complete craft and hold the lantern up to the light. Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**
- *“When we do what Jesus says we shine like stars! **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.** Now you can take your stars home, do what Jesus says, and shine like the stars with your family!*
 - *Tell me one more time, **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.**”*



Have children hang on to craft for Activity 1!

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ACTIVITY #1

Shine Like a Star

SUPPLIES: Star craft

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children join you in the center of the room. This could also be done from places at the craft table.**
 - *“Friends, let’s use our new craft to play a game. We learned today that when we do what Jesus says we shine like stars! Jesus tells us to use kind words and to show his love to everyone. So listen carefully and when I say something that Jesus wants us to do, hold your star up high and say SHINE! But if I say something where you are not shining your light, keep your star down. Are you ready to try? Here we go!”*
- ⇒ **Read off each example. If it is an example of shining your light, have children hold up their star and say SHINE. If it is an example of not shining their light, keep the star down.**
 - *You shared your toy.*
 - *You were kind to your brother.*
 - *You hugged a friend.*
 - *You didn’t share with your friend.*
 - *You got mad and yelled at your brother.*
 - *You remembered to say, “Thank you.”*
 - *You helped clean up the toys.*
 - *You left your toys all over the floor in a big mess.*
 - *You were unkind to a friend.*
 - *You didn’t say, “Thank you.”*
 - *You chose not to complain.*
 - *You wanted to get mad, but you didn’t.*
 - *You argued with your sister.*
 - *You told your sister you were sorry.*
- ⇒ **Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**
 - *“There are so many ways we can shine! When we help, when we are kind, when we don’t argue or complain, then we shine like stars! When we do what Jesus says, we SHINE!!!*
 - ***Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!”***

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ACTIVITY #2

Kindness Charades

SUPPLIES: Kindness charade 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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ACTIVITY #3

Parachute

SUPPLIES: Squishy hearts

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Have children join you in a circle in the center of the room.**

- *“All month long we have been learning an amazing memory verse! Do you remember what it is? Let your light shine.’ Matthew 5:16*
- *Let’s try it all together! c
Great job!”*

⇒ **Ask children to stand around the parachute with you and guide them to each pick up a section of the parachute.**

- *“Now, everybody grab a section of the parachute.*
- *When we show the love of Jesus to others we are doing what Jesus says! We are letting our light shine!”*

⇒ **Show the squishy hearts to everyone. Toss them on the parachute and start to make waves with the parachute. Do a variety of ways: high, low, fast, slow, etc.**

- *“When we love people like they did in the early church, our love will spread all over! These hearts will remind us that we can love like Jesus! We are going to make waves with the parachute and spread our love everywhere!”*

⇒ **After all the hearts have popped out of the parachute, have the children collect them all and bring them back to the parachute.**

- *“Can you get them all? Let’s go! Wow your love went everywhere! Now before we start the parachute again, let’s say our memory verse together again: Let your light shine.’ Matthew 5:16”*

⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested and then Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**

- *Our Memory Verse reminds us to, ‘Let your light shine!’ How? By doing what Jesus says. Tell me:
Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!*

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READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY APRIL WEEK 4

PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

- *Words to Love By*, by Rick Warren

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

- ⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line
 - ***Who can do what Jesus says?***
 - ***I can do what Jesus says!***
- ⇒ Memory Verse
 - ***“Let your light shine.”***
Matthew 5:16

CONNECT IT AND PRAY

- ⇒ “Today, when I say your name, stand up and say, I can do what Jesus says! Then I will write your name down on our paper.
 - Say: “Can ____ do what Jesus says?”
Child responds: “I can do what Jesus says!”
- ⇒ Great job, friends! We can SHINE when we do what Jesus says!
- ⇒ Let’s fold our hands and bow our heads and **pray**:
 - *Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to teach us how to shine our light. [Child’s name] wants to do what Jesus says. [Child’s name] wants to do what Jesus says. (Continue with each child.) Please help us do everything without complaining and arguing so we can shine like the stars and people can see that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever, too. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”*