

May Week 3

2s

Hat's Off

May 16-17

CRAFT WEEK 3

Z's Story Tree

SUPPLIES:

Story Page, green tissue paper squares, glue sticks, crayons

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Give each child a story page. Set out the crayons.**

- *“Look at your paper! Who’s that up in that tree in the branches? (Pause for responses.) It’s Zacchaeus! And who’s standing next to the tree? (Pause for responses.) That’s right! It’s Jesus! Let’s color Zacchaeus and Jesus, but don’t color the leaves on the tree!”*

⇒ **Use glue sticks to put glue over the leaves on the tree, then give children green tissue paper squares to stick to the glue as leaves.**

- *“These green tissue paper squares remind me of leaves. Glue some to your paper to hide Zacchaeus in the tree. (Pause.) You’re doing such a great job adding leaves to the tree. In our Bible Story, Zacchaeus climbed a fig tree so he could see Jesus because he was too short to see over the crowd.”*

⇒ **Review the Bible Story and bring it back to the Bottom Line**

- *“Jesus walked by the tree and saw Zacchaeus. Jesus called Zacchaeus by name and said, ‘Come down, I want to go to your house today.’ Zacchaeus was so surprised and so happy! Jesus knew Zacchaeus had made wrong choices, but Jesus still wanted to be his friend. That’s because **Jesus cares about everyone**, no matter what!*
- **“Who does Jesus care about?”**
- **“Jesus cares about everyone!”**

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ACTIVITY #1

Story Box

SUPPLIES: Foam cubes, story images (in sleeves), heart sticky notes

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Gather the children on the floor. Make sure to add heart sticky notes on the cube to cover the story images.**
- *"Hello everyone. Come over and look at this cool story box! It has a heart on each side. Hearts make us think of love, and we are learning that Jesus loves and cares about everyone!"*
- ⇒ **Encourage children to remove a heart from the cube. Then use the cube to review the story.**
- *"Let's take turns taking one heart off at a time. [Child's name], take one heart off the box. (Pause.) What do you see? (Pause for responses.) That's right! It's [story picture]. Let's keep going. [Child's name], your turn to take a heart off. (Continue with the remaining hearts.) We found all the parts of the story."*
 - *"Now let's retell today's true Bible Story with each picture. (Turn the cube to the picture of Zacchaeus with the mad people.) Zacchaeus was a tax collector, and no one liked tax collectors! They took money from people to give to the rulers who were in charge and money to pay themselves. Zacchaeus had taken so much money that he was rich!"*
 - *"(Turn the cube to the picture of Jesus.) One day, Zacchaeus heard Jesus was coming to Jericho. Zacchaeus had heard that Jesus loves everyone, but Zacchaeus had never seen Jesus. So he went to see Jesus for himself. But when Zacchaeus got close, a big crowd of people blocked his way. They were all trying to see Jesus too!"*
 - *"(Turn the cube to the picture of Zacchaeus in the tree.) Zacchaeus couldn't see Jesus through the crowd, he was too short. So Zacchaeus climbed up a fig tree!"*
 - *"(Turn the cube to the picture of Jesus next to Zacchaeus in the tree.) Zacchaeus could see Jesus coming closer and closer until He got to the tree. Jesus stopped and looked right up at Zacchaeus and said come down and let's go to your house. Zacchaeus was amazed and excited. He scrambled out of the tree and invited Jesus to come to his home right away."*
 - *"(Turn the cube to the picture of Jesus and Zacchaeus near Zacchaeus' house.) Other people saw this. They knew Zacchaeus had done wrong things, and they did not think Jesus should go to Zacchaeus' house. But Jesus loves and cares for everyone—no matter what!"*
 - *"(Turn the cube to the picture of Jesus and the people in the heart outline.) Jesus knew that Zacchaeus had taken too much money from people, but Jesus still loved him. Zacchaeus was changed that day, and he gave back more money than he had taken."*
- ⇒ **Bring it back to the Bottom Line.**
- *"Jesus told Zacchaeus that He came to help people who are lost and hurting and to rescue them. Jesus did not just come to help people who do the right thing all the time because all of us do wrong things sometimes. Jesus came to help people who are sick and hurting and do wrong things, like Zacchaeus. **Jesus cares about everyone, no matter what. That means Jesus loves and cares for us too!**"*
 - **Who does Jesus care about?**
 - **Jesus cares about everyone!"**

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ACTIVITY #2

Everyone, Everywhere

SUPPLIES: Location cards, wall tape

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather children in the middle of the room.**

- *"Friends! Meet me in the middle of the room. (Pause.) There are different pictures around the room, do you see them? (Point to the four pictures.) Let's play a game with those pictures."*

⇒ **Encourage children to move to each picture and review our question at each picture. Then, let children choose their pictures and review the bottom line.**

- *"Do you see the picture of the playground? (Point to the playground picture.) When I say go, I want you to walk to the picture. Ready, set, GO! (Pause.) Hooray! You made it! Tell me friends, who cares about everyone at the playground? (Pause.) That's right **Jesus cares about everyone** at the playground! **Who does Jesus care about? Jesus cares about everyone.** Great job! Come back to the middle with me. (Pause.) Now look for the picture of grocery store. You can walk to it when I say go. Ready, set, GO! (Pause.) Hooray! You made it! Tell me friends, who cares about everyone at the grocery store? (Pause.) That's right **Jesus cares about everyone** at the grocery store! **Who does Jesus care about? Jesus cares about everyone.** (Continue with each picture and repeat. Then allow children to walk to whichever picture they want and say the Bottom Line.) Great job, friends! Come back to the middle and sit with me."*

⇒ **Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**

- *All the places we ran to today; the playground, the grocery store, the doctor's office, the school, even when we ran right back here, to the middle, Jesus cares about everyone everywhere we went! Jesus' love is wide, and long, and high, and deep enough for everyone because **Jesus cares about everyone!***
- ***Who does Jesus care about? Jesus cares about everyone!***

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**READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY
MAY 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

- *Pray to God – Keep all month*

ASK A QUESTION

Who does Jesus care about?

Jesus cares about everyone!

PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

“How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”
Ephesians 3:18

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.