

SOUTH CAROLINA
BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Stewardship... God's Way

Preschool Edition

Look at a Picture

If possible locate a picture of John the Baptist and Jesus, Jesus with Andrew and Simon, or Jesus and the Disciples. Ask the boys and girls to describe the picture. Older preschoolers may be able to help you retell parts of the story.



Allow boys and girls to tell you of a time when they had good news and were excited to tell someone.

Remind them that they made several items today to share with friends. They can also share the good news that, “Jesus loves you!” as they present the door hangers or flowers to a new friend.

Repeat the Sound Matching Game

Use the sound containers from the Nature Center. Give one container to children and have them find the child with the same sound. This may be a little difficult if everyone is shaking his or hers at the same time. Help children recall what is in the containers. They may choose to use them as musical instruments as you song a song.

Continue

Children have lots to take home today: Take-Home page, door hangers, and flowers. Call parents attention to the information on the Take Home page for delivering the flower to a homebound church member and the door hanger to a neighbor. Greet guest warmly and let them know about an activity their child particularly enjoyed. Ask if you can visit their child at home or call this week.

Follow-up

Call a few more children this week (see Week One for specifics). Deliver any extra flowers to homebound church members. If you are the Department Director send a thank-you note to the teachers who work with you each week. Teachers may write a thank-you note to volunteers who continue to teach each Sunday in Extended Teaching Care.

Tell the Bible Story

Open your Bible to John 1:35-42 and be prepared to tell the story in your own words:

Andrew was a follower of John the Baptist. He listened to John's teachings. He watched John as he preached about God's love. One day, John the Baptist saw Jesus walking nearby. He shouted something like, "Look, there's Jesus!" Andrew heard John. Another follower of John the Baptist heard him, too. They probably got very excited! People had been waiting for a long time for Jesus to come and now John was saying it was Him! Andrew and the other man followed Jesus as He walked along.

Jesus turned and saw the two men following Him. "What are you looking for?" He asked. Andrew and his friend wondered where Jesus was staying. "Come and see" Jesus replied. So they went with Jesus. They spent the day with Him.

The first thing Andrew did after spending the day with Jesus was to go and find his brother, Simon. He wanted Simon to know the good news. He had found Jesus. He probably told his brother all about his visit with Jesus.

Andrew did more than just tell Simon about Jesus. He took him to meet Jesus. The two brothers became disciples, helpers of Jesus. Simon, who was also called Peter, became one of the leaders among Jesus' helpers. His life was changed because Andrew had told him about Jesus!

John 1:35-42



Honoring God by Telling Others About Him

Session Overview—Week 2

Bible Passage: John 1:35-42

Biblical Setting: Jesus has just been baptized by John and was beginning His public ministry. This includes the calling of the disciples.

Bible Truth: God wants us to tell others about Jesus.

Key Bible Phrase: God sent His Son, Jesus. (1 John 4:14)

Life Question: How can I tell others about Jesus?

Life Impact: I can tell others about Jesus when I show love to others.

Of the many wonderful gifts God gives, His most valuable

Teacher's Personal Bible Study

gift to us is our salvation. Say a prayer of thanks to God for sending His Son to give you eternal life. Check here when you have done so: _____. Today's Bible study reminds us of the joy and responsibility of sharing the good news of salvation: being good stewards of our witness.

Finding the Messiah (John 1:35-40)

Andrew had an active interest in spiritual matters, because he apparently took time away from his occupation as a fisherman to learn from and follow John the Baptist.

On the day after Jesus' baptism, Andrew and another of John's disciples were present when John called attention to Jesus, who was passing by. John had made it clear that he was not God's chosen one, the Messiah, but that Jesus was (see v. 34). Write here what John the Baptist called Jesus in verse 36:

the _____ . Hearing this, Andrew and his unnamed companion followed Jesus.

At Jesus' invitation, these two former disciples of John spent the day with Him. John had prepared the way with his message of repentance, then pointed his followers to the One who would be their Savior.

Sharing the News (John 1:41-42)

Think of the excitement that Andrew must have felt to be able to go to his brother and announce, "We have found the Messiah!" It was the first thing he did after spending the day with Jesus. What did Andrew do next (v. 42)?

Not only did Andrew tell Simon about Jesus, he also brought him to meet Jesus. The brothers' lives were changed from that day on.

Bringing Others to Jesus

Andrew is an example to us of what we should do when we meet the Savior. In John 6:8-9, he again brought someone to Jesus. Who was it? _____

John 20:20-22 relates that some foreign visitors to Jerusalem wanted to meet Jesus. It was Andrew, along with Philip, who apparently arranged the meeting. Andrew made a habit of introducing people to his Lord.

Just before Group Time is to begin move around the room and whisper to boys and girls that it is time to complete their activities. Gather the items you need for group time. As children are cleaning up the centers sing: "Amelia is a helper, a helper, a helper. Amelia is a helper. Thank you, Amelia." Other children may need to hear you sing to encourage them to clean up. If need be ask teachers to sit beside a child who may need help to settle down in Group Time.

Sing a Song

As boys and girls finish cleaning up the centers and come to group time, change the song to "I Have a Good Friend", greeting children as they join the circle. Don't forget the teachers, too. When everyone has come to the circle say a prayer thanking God for our friends at church. You may wish to pray for children who are absent today, also.

Play a Game

Play a whispering game. Explain to the boys and girls that you are going to whisper a secret to the child sitting to your right. Then he will whisper to the next child and so on around the circle. Whisper something simple such as today's Bible Phrase, "God sent His Son, Jesus." Continue a couple more times if children seem interested.



Homeliving – Make cinnamon toast to share

Gather: Bible; bread; cookie cutter flower shape; butter or margarine; cinnamon sugar; small plates; plastic knives; toaster oven; allergy notice; napkins; small cups; pitcher of water

Prepare: Place the allergy notice on the door. You may need to move the Homeliving table near the electrical outlet. Take extra precautions to be safe with the cord and electricity. You may want to make the cinnamon sugar by mixing one part cinnamon to three parts sugar and placing it in a shaker bottle. Put water in the pitcher.



Teach: As children come to Homeliving guide them to wash their hands. Ask one child to give his friends a napkin, one child to give a plate, one child a knife, and one child a cup. Take the opportunity to thank boys and girls for helping their friends. Next, children will need a slice of bread and the cookie cutter. Guide them to use the cookie cutter to cut out the shape from their slice of bread. Spread it with soft margarine and then sprinkle it with cinnamon sugar. Place bread into the oven and lightly toast. Guide boys and girls to give their toast to another child at the table. Everyone will end up with cinnamon toast and the opportunity to give, as well as receive. Allow children to thank God for friends and being able to share the good news of Jesus. Pour water into their cups. Be prepared to tell the Bible story as children eat their cinnamon toast.



Since stewardship is the wise use of the gifts God has given, we must consider our stewardship of the gift of salvation. Robert Simms has written, “Good stewards are faithful in sharing the good news, first and foremost,” and also “Even Christians who don’t have a dime have the good news – that’s priceless!”

Encounter

Art – Create door hangers

Gather: Bible; markers; glue; buttons; sequins; ribbon; stickers; sectioned container; door hangers (may be purchased from a craft store or cut from poster board).

Prepare: Cut out the door hangers, if not purchased. Assemble other items in sectioned container. Open Bible to John 1:35-42 and be prepared to tell the story.

Teach: As children show interest in the activity ask if they have ever thought about telling someone about Jesus. Listen intently to their comments. Tell the Bible story in your own words. Guide the boys and girls in decorating a door hanger to give to someone they would like to tell about Jesus. They may choose to write “Jesus Loves You”, “God sent His Son, Jesus”, or something else on their door hanger. Allow children to use collected items to decorate the hangers. Give an opportunity for children to pray for the people they have chosen to share their door hanger with.



Blocks – Playing with boats

Gather: Bible; wooden unit blocks; plastic dish pan; plastic boats; large blue towel; blue plastic table cloth; picture of Jesus near water.

Prepare: Place the tablecloth on the floor in the Block Center. Lay the towel in the center of the tablecloth with the plastic dishpan on top of the towel. Pour about two inches of water into the dishpan. Arrange boats for children to discover. Place the Bible on the floor next to the picture of Jesus.

Teach: As children come to the Block Center allow them to place the boats in the water. Start the conversation with the picture of Jesus and lead into telling the Bible story. Say, “The Bible tells us the story of John the Baptist and Jesus at the water,” and continue in your words the story. Allow children to continue to float the boats in the water. Ask boys and girls about “good news” they could not wait to share with a friend. Tell them: “The good news that ‘Jesus loves you’ is really good news!”



Puzzles – Sound Game

Gather: Bible; empty film containers; poster board; glue; pop corn kernels; salt; pennies; small pebbles; dry beans; paper clips; rice; bells; other items available to you.

Prepare: Partially fill film containers with each item. Glue a small amount of each item to the poster board. Place the Bible and game pieces on the table or floor. Open the Bible to a picture of Jesus and the disciples.

Teach: Guide boys and girls to shake the containers, one at a time, and to listen carefully to the different sounds. Sing with the children to the tune “London Bridge”: “I can hear the shaking sound, shaking sound, shaking sound. I can hear the shaking sound and I think it is rice”, substituting the correct sound at the end of the song.



Encourage children to match the container to the correct items on the poster board display. Bible conversation could be about listening to the good news and telling the good news about Jesus, too! Point to the picture in the Bible as you tell the Bible story during the game.

Variation: Make pairs of sound containers and direct children to match the sounds.

Nature – Plant a flower

Gather: Bible; news paper; small plastic flower pots; small flowering plants; potting soil; large plastic container; spoons or small sand shovels; watering can; list of homebound members of your church (write one name, address, and phone number on each separate card).

Prepare: Empty the potting soil into the large plastic container to make it more accessible to the children. Cover the table with newspaper. Put water in the watering can. Place the Bible nearby, ready to use.

Teach: When boys and girls come to the table direct them to use the spoons to put some potting soil into their flowerpots. Help them gently place the flower into the soil and cover the root system with additional soil.

Allow children to water their plants slightly. Show the children the cards with the names of homebound members of your church. Explain to them what it means to be homebound. Guide children to pray for them and choose one to take the flower to the following week. (Parental instructions will be in the Take-Home piece today, also.) Guide the conversation to sharing good news about Jesus and tell the Bible story in your own words.

