

JESUS AND THE LITTLE CHILDREN

Timeless Truth: Jesus is the promised Messiah.

Bible Basis: Matthew 19: 13–15; Mark 10:13–16

Key Verse: [Jesus said,] “Let the little children come to me. Don’t keep them away. The kingdom of heaven belongs to people like them.” —Matthew 19:14, NIV

Resource: *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 25: “Jesus and the Little Children”

PARENT TIPS

Read chapter 25 in *The Story for Little Ones* several times this week and talk about the key point. Reading the story several times will help your preschooler to remember it. Use the Table Talk questions to talk about the lesson. Use the questions anytime throughout the week, not just at the table. The Living Faith activity is designed to help your child show that Jesus loves them through a craft. The Extra Mile ideas give you more ways to help your child remember the lesson.

GET THE POINT

Jesus loved the little children. Jesus loves you too!

TABLE TALK

- **What did the disciples tell the parents and children?** (*They told them not to come.*)
- **What did Jesus tell the children?** (*Come to me.*)
- **Who loves you?**

LIVING FAITH

Jesus told the little children to come to him. With your preschooler, make a craft of Jesus and the little children. Take a piece of flesh-colored paper and fold it accordion-style three or four times. Trace around a template you find online or draw your own person on the folded sheet of paper, making sure the arms and the legs go all the way to the folds. Help your child cut out the person shape. Unfold the paper to reveal a chain of people holding hands. Using yarn, markers, fabric scraps, or construction paper, help your child decorate one person to look like Jesus, one person to look like your child, and the others to look like the rest of your family or your preschooler’s friends. Hang the chain of people where you will see it all week and be reminded that Jesus loves you.

EXTRA MILE

Sing the songs "Jesus Loves Me" and "Jesus Loves the Little Children" many times this week. If you don't know the songs, you can find them online.

Use paper, scissors, glue, and decoration supplies to make cards to give to people you love. Remind them that Jesus loves them too.

The disciples told the children to stop, but Jesus told them to come. Play "Red Light, Green Light" with your child and other stop-and-go games.

Use these motions to help your child remember this verse from the Bible story.

Let the little children (*Pretend to pat the heads of little children.*)

Come (*Signal for someone to come closer.*)

To me. (*Point up to God.*)

Matthew 19:14 (*Open hands like a book.*)