




Peter Visits Cornelius

Acts 10:1-44

One of the best things about 5- and 6-year-olds is that most of them are fearless when it comes to talking to people. They hold nothing back—and sometimes that can be really embarrassing for adults! But it also means they aren't afraid to tell people about Jesus. If only everyone could talk about Jesus so fearlessly! Use this lesson to help kids learn how to tell other people about Jesus.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started <i>about 10 min.</i>	Welcoming Song Sing or listen to praises for God.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Key Verse Activity <i>about 10 min.</i>	A Helpful Teacher Learn how to sign the phrase "Jesus loves you and me."	Bible	
3 Bible Exploration <i>about 15 min.</i>	Theo's News Find out what a rainbow has to do with the Bible today.	Surprise Box (any box will do), Theo puppet, picture of a rainbow, CD player Teacher Pack: CD	Put the picture of a rainbow inside the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it's easily accessible.
	Bible Time: Peter's Vision Experience Peter's vision.	Bible, towel, toy animals, markers Teacher Pack: "Peter Visits Cornelius" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	Hide the toy animals in the towel.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



► Bible Point

Tell everyone about Jesus.

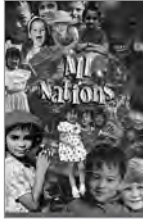
Key Verse

"But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you" (John 14:26).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will tell others about Jesus.



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>4</p> <p>Weaving Faith Into Life <i>about 20 min.</i> <i>(Choose 2 centers.)</i></p>	<p>Center 1: What a Sight! Make a bedsheet filled with animals, like that in the Bible passage.</p>	My Bible Playground, markers	Remove the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Playground student book.
	<p>Center 2: Okay to Eat Make an edible sheet filled with animals.</p>	1 fruit leather per child, animal crackers, paper plates, antibacterial gel (optional)	
	<p>Center 3: Shape Up! Use modeling dough to make the people and animals in the story.</p>	bandanna, modeling dough	
	<p>Center 4: Fingerprints Learn that each of us is different.</p>	paper, pencils, light-colored construction paper, glue, washable ink pad, wet wipes	
<p>5</p> <p>Lasting Impressions <i>about 10 min.</i></p>	<p>Daily Challenges Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p>	My Bible Playground	
	<p>All Nations Prayer Pray for people as they put together a puzzle.</p>	<p>Teacher Pack: "All Nations" puzzle, separated</p> 	
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Welcoming Song Supplies


CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Hurrah!" (track 19), "God's Not Dead" (track 5)


1 GETTING STARTED

Welcoming Song

 **Tip** Consistently use the same signal to announce a transition to the next activity. You could flip the lights off and on, use a train whistle, have a puppet rustling inside a bag, or sing cleanup songs. Keep it simple, consistent, and fun.

What You'll Do

As the children arrive, greet each child and welcome him or her with a smile. When it's time to begin, use your signal to bring the children together in a circle. Lead kids in singing "Hurrah!" (track 19 on the CD) to the tune of "When Johnny Comes Marching Home." Encourage kids to join you in singing and doing the motions.

 **Let's come and sing at church today. Hurrah! Hurrah!** (*pump fists into the air on "hurrah!"*)

Let's come and pray at church today. Hurrah! Hurrah! (*pump fists into the air on "hurrah!"*)

The girls will cheer, the boys will shout; (*have girls cheer and boys shout*)

We'll learn what love is all about.

And we'll sing and pray (*fold hands in prayer*)

With our friends at church.

(Repeat 2x.)

Say: **Today we'll learn that we can ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS. God loves everyone, and he wants everyone to live forever with him. Let's celebrate and sing our next song.**

Play "God's Not Dead" (track 5 on the CD) and encourage kids to join you in singing and doing the actions.

 (*Chorus*)

God's not dead, no! (*cup both hands around mouth, and then shake a pointer finger on "no"*)

He is alive. (*wave both hands overhead*)

God's not dead, no! (*cup both hands around mouth, and then shake a pointer finger on "no"*)

He is alive. (*wave both hands overhead*)

God's not dead, no! (*cup both hands around mouth, and then shake a pointer finger on "no"*)

He is alive. (*wave both hands overhead*)

I know he's living in me. (*point to your forehead, and then point to your chest*)



I see him in my hands. (*wiggle your hands*)
 I see him in my feet. (*wiggle your feet*)
 I see him in the air. (*place one hand above your eyes*)
 I see him everywhere. (*place both hands above your eyes*)
 I see him at the church. (*hold both hands like a roof over your head*)
 I see him on the street. (*point to the ground*)
 And I know he's living in me. (*point to your forehead, and then point to your chest*)
 No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no. (*shake a pointer finger*)

(Repeat chorus.)

Say: **God's not dead—and neither is his Son, Jesus! We can ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS.**

2

**KEY VERSE
ACTIVITY**

A Helpful Teacher

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have the children form a circle and sit down. Open your Bible to John 14:26, and show children the words.

Say: **Our Key Verse from the Bible, John 14:26, says, “But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you” (John 14:26). That means that the Holy Spirit will teach you. Let's say our Key Verse together.** Lead children in repeating the simplified version of the Key Verse after you: **The Holy Spirit will teach you (John 14:26).**

Ask:

- **What do you picture when I say the words *Holy Spirit*?**
- **What would you like the Holy Spirit to teach you?**

Say: **One thing the Holy Spirit teaches us is that we can ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS. Let's learn a way to tell others that Jesus is for everyone. Today I'm going to show you how to use sign language to say, “Jesus loves you and me.”** Sign “Jesus loves you and me” (see below).

Say: **Sign language is a way to say words with our hands instead of our voices. Watch carefully, and follow along with your hands.**

To sign the word *Jesus*, indicate the marks of the nails on Jesus' hands by using the left middle finger to touch the right palm and then using the right middle finger to touch the left palm. Show kids the sign for *love* by crossing closed or flat hands over your heart

A Helpful Teacher Supplies

Bible





with palms facing in. For the words *you* and *me*, simply point to someone else and then to yourself. If some of the children already know sign language, invite them to help teach the others.

Say: **Jesus loves you and me.** Have kids each sign “Jesus loves you and me” with their hands.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What’s important about telling other people that Jesus loves you and me?**

Say: **It’s always fun to learn something new, especially when you have a teacher to help you learn. That’s why God gave us the Holy Spirit, so that the Holy Spirit can teach us how to do the right thing and how to learn more about Jesus and about God’s Word. Let’s say our Key Verse together one more time!** Lead children in saying the simplified Key Verse with you: **The Holy Spirit will teach you (John 14:26).**

3 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Theo’s News

Theo’s News Supplies

Surprise Box (any box will do)
Theo puppet
picture of a rainbow
CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: “Here, Theo” (track 4)

Theo’s News Easy Prep

Put the picture of a rainbow inside the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it’s easily accessible.

What You’ll Do ■■■■

Say: **Friends, it’s time for Theo’s News!**

Have the children sit in a circle, and begin “Here, Theo” (track 4 on the CD). When the CD segment ends, bring out the Surprise Box, and put Theophilus the FaithRetriever puppet on your hand. Then follow along with the script.

Theo: Hi, everybody!

Teacher: Hello, Theo! Tell us what interesting news you’ve dug up about the Bible today.

Theo: I hid it in the Surprise Box.

Teacher: Let’s look inside to see what Theo dug up for us today.

(Invite a child to open the Surprise Box, and have the kids pass the picture of the rainbow around the circle so others can see it up close. Give the children time to guess what they might learn from the Bible today.)

Teacher: Friends, what do you think a rainbow has to do with the Bible?

(Pause for kids to answer your question.)

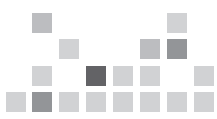
Teacher: Theo, why did you hide this rainbow in the Surprise Box?

Theo: To see if you’d be able to find it. What did you notice about this rainbow?

Teacher: It’s in the sky.

Theo: Yes! What else?

Teacher: It’s in the shape of a semi-circle.



Theo: Yes! What else?

Teacher: There are lots of different colors in it.

Theo: Yes, there are so many beautiful colors!

Teacher: And God made all the colors in the world. He made big and little people, rich and poor people, and people who live all over the world. God loves us all!

Theo: Wow, really?

Teacher: Yes and today we'll hear about two people in the Bible who learned that we can ► **TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS.** Let's find out what happened!

Theo: Have fun, boys and girls!

Teacher: Say goodbye to Theo.

Encourage the children to wave or say goodbye to Theo. Then put Theo away in a safe place for next week's use.

Bible Time: Peter's Vision

What You'll Do

Open your Bible to Acts 10, and show children the words. Tell kids that the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **Peter and many Jewish people like him thought that Jesus' love was just for Jewish people. But even Peter had a lot to learn. One day, a man named Cornelius had a visit from an angel. The angel said, "Go get Peter. God wants us to ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS."** Have kids repeat the Bible Point: ► **TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS.**

Say: **So Cornelius sent some men to Peter. Peter was praying on the roof of a house. Maybe he went there because it was quiet there and he felt closer to God.** Have kids close their eyes as if praying. Tell them to keep their eyes closed until you tell them to open them.

Say: **While he prayed, Peter saw something amazing. For coming down, down, down out of heaven was a sheet full of wiggly animals.** Place the towel full of animals on the floor; then have kids open their eyes.

God told Peter that it was okay to like animals that he wasn't used to and to love people he wasn't used to. Peter heard God's voice three times; then the sheet was taken back to heaven. Have kids hold the edge of the towel and bounce it up and down three times. Then have kids on each side slowly walk their edges into the center. Gather the edges of the towel so all the animals are inside, and then place it out of sight.

Say: **Peter finally got it! Peter hurried with the servants to Cornelius' home and told him what he saw. He said that it doesn't matter what we eat, where we live, or what we look like. We can ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS!** Show kids the "Peter Visits Cornelius" poster. Encourage kids to each draw a smiley face on the poster and say the Bible Point aloud: ► **TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS.**



Bible Time: Peter's Vision Supplies

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Bible
towel
toy animals
markers

Teacher Pack
"Peter Visits Cornelius"
poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)

Bible Time Easy Prep

.....
Hide the toy animals in the towel.





Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think about what happened to Peter?
- Why do you think God wanted Peter to love everyone?

Say: **It makes no difference what people look like, what they eat, where they live, or what job they have. We can ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS!**

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4 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Choose at least two of the learning centers to help reinforce today's Bible lesson. Gather the needed materials, and put the supplies in an out-of-sight area until you're ready for them. Allow the children to choose which center they'd like to explore first. Then circulate among the children as they create and explore. Encourage them to make connections between their activities and the Bible by asking them the questions included with each center's description.

■ CENTER 1:

What a Sight!

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Distribute the Lesson 11 My Bible Playground student pages, and have kids write their names on their papers.

Say: **We're going to draw some animals together! I want you draw an animal, and each time you draw a different animal, say the name of a friend or family member you can tell about Jesus.**

Give kids time to draw and offer names.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What animals did you draw?
- What could you say to the people you named?

Say: **God made people all different sizes, colors, and shapes. Wouldn't it be boring if everyone were the same? No matter where a person lives, what a person eats, or what a person looks like, you can ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS!**

Center 1: What a Sight! Supplies

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My Bible Playground markers

Center 1: What a Sight! Easy Prep

.....

Remove the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Playground student book.



CENTER 2:

Okay to Eat

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have kids clean their hands. Give each child a paper plate and a piece of fruit leather.

Say: ► **TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS. It doesn't matter where we live or what we eat. Spread the news!**

Have each child unroll the leather so it looks like the sheet in the Bible passage. Then let kids fill each of their "sheets" with all kinds of animals. Ask someone to pray, and then let the kids enjoy their snacks.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What are some things God has created in the world that you like to eat?
- What's important about thanking God for the things we eat?

Say: **God wants us to ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS. The more people who know about him, the more people who can live with him forever in heaven!**

CENTER 3:

Shape Up!

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set out a handful of modeling dough for each child.

Say: **Peter sure saw all kinds of animals. He probably saw animals like goats and pigs and donkeys. He also saw reptiles and birds.**

Encourage children to use the dough to make figures from the Bible passage, making as many figures as they want. They can make Cornelius, Peter, and the animals. Let them use the dough shapes to retell what they've heard. Children can use the bandanna as the sheet from the vision.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did Peter learn in his dream?
- What can we do to tell others that Jesus loves you and me?



Center 2: Okay to Eat Supplies

-
- 1 fruit leather per child
 - animal crackers
 - paper plates
 - antibacterial gel (optional)

! ALLERGY ALERT

Center 3: Shape Up! Supplies

-
- bandanna
 - modeling dough



Center 4: Fingerprints Supplies

paper
pencils
light-colored
construction paper
glue
washable ink pad
wet wipes

Say: You can ► **TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS**, no matter where you live, what you eat, or what you look like. Let's tell all people that Jesus loves them!

CENTER 4:

Fingerprints

What You'll Do

Say: Let's learn about how God made people in all different shapes and sizes.

Have kids each trace one of their hands onto the paper.

Say: **Each of us is different, and one of the cool things that's different about us is our fingerprints!**

Use the ink pad and help kids each press a fingerprint on their hand shapes and then use a wet wipe to clean their fingers. Allow children to compare their fingerprints with the fingerprints of other children.

Say: **Isn't it great that God made people in all different shapes and sizes? Even our fingerprints are different!** Hold up your hand and wiggle your fingers.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What's similar or different about the fingerprints you see?
- In what other ways are you the same as other people? What's different about you?

Say: **The one thing that's the same for each of us is God's love. Not one person is left out of God's love. His arms reach out and hug everyone. So we can ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS**, because God sent Jesus to earth for everyone.

5 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do

After the children have cleaned up the centers, bring everyone back to the circle area on the floor. Review the lesson activities and the Bible Point, and then encourage the children to share what they remember about what they've learned from the Bible today.

Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Playground

Also use this time to challenge kids in their faith. Encourage them to choose a Daily Challenge for applying today's lesson to their lives this week. Use this challenge for encouraging your children's growing relationships with Jesus.

Talk With Kids

Say: **Today we've learned that we can ► TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS. Choose one of these Daily Challenges to tell people about Jesus this week.**

Give kids these three challenges to choose from:

1. **Tell a friend at school about Jesus—while sharing your lunch with him or her, too!**
2. **Tell each of your family members about Jesus and his love for them.**
3. **Take your neighbor some cookies with a note attached, telling him or her about Jesus' love.**

Say: **If you want to tell a friend about Jesus, circle choice number 1. If you want to tell family members about Jesus, circle choice number 2. If you want to take cookies to a neighbor, circle choice number 3.** Check that each child circled a choice. Make sure you tell kids the challenge you choose. Your commitment will inspire children and will give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as in theirs!

All Nations Prayer

What You'll Do

Set out the "All Nations" puzzle pieces, and hand a piece to any child who would like to pray out loud. One at a time, have children each say a prayer for someone they want to tell about Jesus. As each child prays, help the child place the piece into the puzzle.

After everyone has prayed, say: **God loves us all of us. We all fit together like one big puzzle.**

Have kids join hands around the puzzle. Have kids repeat each line after you as you say the following prayer.

Pray: **Thank you, Jesus,
For loving everyone.
In your name, amen.**



All Nations Prayer
Prayer
Supplies

.....
Teacher Pack
"All Nations" puzzle,
separated



Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their My Bible Playground pages whether they worked on them or not. Have children tell their parents the challenge they committed to in the “Daily Challenges” activity. Encourage parents to help their kids fulfill this commitment during the week. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.

