

Additional CONNECT Activities

New Testament

Lesson 1—Drama Center

Items Needed: Large white t-shirts

Encourage the children to put on the white t-shirts and pretend to be angels.

Encourage the children to say the Heartprint: **Jesus Is God's Son** to each other.

CONNECTION POINT: Today we are going to learn angels made an announcement about a special baby.

Lesson 2—Transportation Center

Items Needed: Toy cars, boats, or planes

Encourage the children to play with the toys.

CONNECTION POINT: Today we are going to learn Mary and Joseph had to travel to a different city. They didn't have cars, boats, or planes to travel in. Mary and Joseph had to travel by walking or riding on a donkey. What are some ways you have traveled?

Lesson 3—Creative Play Center

Items Needed: Dolls

Allow the children to play with and take care of the babies.

CONNECTION POINT: Today we are going to learn about when Jesus was born.

His mother, Mary, took care of Him like we took care of our babies.

Lesson 4—Creative Play Center

Items Needed: Stuffed animal sheep

Farm animal toys

Allow children to play with the sheep and other animals. Encourage them to take care of the animals—pretend to find them grass to eat and water to drink, etc.

CONNECTION POINT: Today we are going to learn about some shepherds who came to see Jesus. Shepherds take care of sheep. They make sure the sheep are safe and have food to eat.

Lesson 5—Review Center

Items Needed: Child-friendly nativity set

Gather the children at the table. Display a child friendly nativity set. Distribute the pieces of the set to the children, and allow them to help retell the story the story of Jesus' birth.

CONNECTION POINT: In our lesson today, we are going to hear about another group who visited Jesus. To help us prepare for our last lesson this month, let's spend some time reviewing and playing with our nativity.

Book Center

Items Needed: Age-appropriate books about Jesus' birth and Christmas

Picture or easy-reader Bibles

Provide throw pillows or beanbag chairs for the children to lounge on as they look at the books.

CONNECTION POINT: This month we are going to learn about what happened before and after Jesus was born. We will learn *Jesus Is God's Son*.

Application Verse Activity Center

Items Needed: TE 1-12—TE 1-13

Before class, cut apart the pieces from TE 1-13. Let the children work together to put the words of the application verse in the correct order. Let them use the application verse poster (TE 1-12) as a guide.

New Testament

Lesson 1—Art Center

Items Needed: Construction paper

Glue

Paintbrush

Small paper plates

Epsom salt

Newspaper

Before class, write the Heartprint at the top of the construction paper so each child will have one. Draw an *O* in the center of the page. Put newspaper under each child's area to contain the mess. Pour some glue on the paper plates, and give each child a craft stick. Distribute a piece of blue construction paper to each child. Let the children dip the craft stick into the glue, and let them run the craft stick over the construction paper tracing the letter *O*. Let the children sprinkle the Epsom salt over the glue. Set aside to dry.

CONNECTION POINT: Today we are going to learn about how the Webster children obeyed while playing in the snow. We just made a picture that looks like snow on the letter *O*. The word *obey* begins with the letter *O*. *I Can Obey God.*

Lesson 2—Drama Center

Items Needed: Plastic tub

Kitchen towels

Child-size broom and pan

Let the children pretend to wash the dishes and sweep the floor.

CONNECTION POINT: In our lesson today, we will hear a story about the Webster children obeying their parents by helping with chores. God wants us to obey even when it's something we don't like to do, like washing the dishes or putting the toys away.

Lesson 3—Puzzle Center

Items Needed: Various puzzles

Let the children put the puzzles together.

CONNECTION POINT: In our lesson today, we will learn about a time when Annie did not obey her mom and how it made her feel.

Lesson 4—Small Motor Skills Center

Items Needed: Lego® blocks

Let the children create with the Lego® blocks.

CONNECTION POINT: In our lesson today, we will learn about a time when Jamie and his friend were building with Lego® blocks together. When they were asked to do something different, they made the choice to obey.

Creative Play Center

Items Needed: Dollhouse with accessories or Little People house with family figures

Allow children to play with the plastic families.

CONNECTION POINT: Every day we have opportunities to obey. We can obey our moms, our dads, our teachers, our grandparents, or we can choose not to obey. It makes God happy when we obey. *I Can Obey God.*

Book Center

Items Needed: Age-appropriate books about obedience

Picture or easy-reader Bibles

Provide throw pillows or beanbag chairs for the children to lounge on as they look at the books.

CONNECTION POINT: This month we are going to learn obeying with a happy heart.

Application Verse Center

Items Needed: TE 2-17—TE 2-18

Before class, cut apart the pieces from TE 2-18. Let the children work together to put the words of the application verse in the correct order. Let them use the application verse poster (TE 2-17) as a guide.

Special Topic

Lesson 1—Imagination Center

Items Needed: Assortment of recognizable super hero action figures

Let the children play with the different action figures. Talk about what makes someone a super hero (super strength, hearing, flying, shoots webs from fingers, etc.).

CONNECTION POINT: Today we are going to learn about a man from the Bible who was a hero. He was a hero of the faith. We will learn about his incredible faith in God.

Lesson 2—Art Center

Items Needed: TE 3-37

Crayons

Before class, copy TE 3-37 so each child will have one. Distribute TE 3-37 and crayons to the children. Allow them to draw a picture of their family on the coloring frame.

CONNECTION POINT: We just drew a picture of our family. Today we are going to learn about Joseph. He had a father who loved him very much, and eleven brothers. Ten of those brothers were older than Joseph, and they were jealous of him. We will learn how Joseph lived by faith when some bad things happened to him because of a choice those ten brothers made.

Lesson 3—Building Center

Items Needed: Blocks

Let the children use the blocks to make a wall.

CONNECTION POINT: In our lesson today, we are going to learn about woman named Rahab who had faith in God. Her house was on the edge of a city wall. We can learn from her example how we can live by faith.

Lesson 4—Play-Doh Center

Items Needed: Play-Doh

Craft sticks

Let the children roll and carve out bricks from the Play-Doh. Show the children how to stack them so they make pyramids.

CONNECTION POINT: In our lesson today, we are going to learn about man who was brave and spoke out for God. He lived by faith, and we can learn from his example how we can live by faith.

Book Center

Items Needed: Age-appropriate books about faith, Noah, Joseph, Moses, and Rahab

Picture or easy-reader Bibles

Provide throw pillows or beanbag chairs for the children to lounge on as they look at the books.

CONNECTION POINT: This month we are going to learn obeying with a happy heart.

Application Verse Center

Items Needed: TE 3-26—TE 3-27

Before class, cut apart the pieces from TE 3-27. Let the children work together to put the words of the application verse in the correct order. Let them use the application verse poster (TE 3-26) as a guide.