



**Bible Point** ▶

# Jesus cares.

## Bible Verse

Jesus cares (adapted from 1 Peter 5:7).

## Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- understand that Jesus cares for them,
  - see that Jesus helps others care for them, and
  - learn about people who care for them.



## Teacher Enrichment

### Bible Basis

- Jesus sends people to care for us.



In today's passage, we read a parable about the victim of a terrible crime. Hopefully, few of us ever have or ever will experience such a frightening situation. Yet all of us have needed help in our lives. Often God's help comes in the form of other people taking time to care and act on our behalf. It is comforting to know that God sends help our way when we need it. Even very young children can comprehend that Jesus cares for them and sends people to care for their needs.

### Prayer

- Read Acts 11:27-30.
- The believers at Antioch would be affected by the famine as well. How does this fact help you appreciate their willingness to help the church in Judea?
- Can you think of times when God sent someone to help you when you needed it?
- Pray: Lord, thank you for sending help the time when... Help me be open to helping others by...

### Before the Lesson

- Collect items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed in the chart on the next page.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.



Repeating the Bible Point over and over will help the children remember it and apply it to their lives. Help children learn one point that will stay with them for days and even years to come.



### Understanding Your Toddlers' and 2s' Communication Development

Toddlers and 2s:

- engage in simple dramatic play.
- use 50 to 100 recognizable words.
- put together two or more words to make a sentence.
- constantly ask, "What's that?"
- refer to themselves by name.
- can point to and identify parts of the body and pictures of familiar objects.

# This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
<b>Arrival Activities</b>  Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	<b>Welcome Time</b> —Receive a warm welcome from the teacher and Cuddles the Lamb.	Name tags (p. 8), marker, tape or safety pins	
	<b>Option 1: Who Am I?</b> —Dress up like helpers in the community.	“Helper” dress-up clothes such as nurses’ hats, police and firefighters’ hats, ties, aprons, lab coats, briefcases	
	<b>Option 2: Donkey Ride</b> —Take turns saddling and riding make-believe donkeys.	Medium-sized boxes, newspaper, tape, donkey-face pattern (p. 22), scissors, hand towels, yarn	
	<b>Pick-Up Time</b> —Sing a song as they help clean up the room.	CD player	
<b>Bible Story Time</b>	<b>Bible Song</b> —Sing a song about the Bible.	Bible, CD player	
	<b>Jesus Cares</b> —Interact with sensory items on the StoryBoard as they hear the story from Luke 10:25-37.		
	<b>The Good Samaritan</b> —Sing a song about the good Samaritan.	CD player	
<b>Bible Activities</b>	<b>Interactive Bible Bulletin Board</b> —Interact with Cuddles the Lamb as they create a bulletin board together.	Helper patterns (pp. 36-37), tape, scissors, paper cup, red marker, clear Con-Tact paper, masking tape, CD player, beanbag, bright markers	
	<b>Sing It Out</b> —Sing a song about the good Samaritan.	CD player	
	<b>Bible Craft</b> —Make helper puppets.	White plastic teaspoons, tape, fine-tipped markers, colored facial tissues	
	<b>Bible Game</b> —Learn a fun rhyme, and then sing a song about how Jesus cares.	Helper puppets from Bible Craft, CD player	
<b>Closing</b>  	<b>Thank You, Jesus</b> —Say a prayer, and have a snack.	Small sugar cookies, milk, paper plate, paper cups, napkins	

\*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

# Arrival Activities

## ■ Welcome Time

**SUPPLIES:** name tags (p. 8), tape or safety pins, marker



- Use Cuddles the Lamb to help you greet each child by name and with a warm smile.
- Tape or pin a name tag to each child's clothing.
- Say: **Today we're going to learn that ► Jesus cares.**
- Place Cuddles out of sight so the children won't be distracted by him during the next activity.

**teacher tips**

If you wish to provide soothing background music as the children arrive, play a CD of your choice.

**◀ BIBLE POINT**



## ■ Option 1: Who Am I?

**SUPPLIES:** dress-up clothes such as nurses' hats, police and firefighters' hats, ties, aprons, labcoats, briefcases

Set out a variety of dress-up clothes such as hats, ties, briefcases, aprons, lab coats, or other articles worn by family or community helpers. Invite children to try on different clothes. Encourage children to guess who dresses in each outfit. Ask questions such as "Who do you think wears this outfit?" and "Which helper cooks your dinner and tucks you in bed?" Point out that everyone can be a special helper. Remind children that ► Jesus cares for them and that he sends people to help in the community.

**◀ BIBLE POINT**

## ■ Option 2: Donkey Ride

**SUPPLIES:** medium-sized boxes, newspaper, donkey-face pattern (p. 22), tape, yarn, scissors, hand towels

Before class, collect three or four medium-sized boxes. Stuff crumpled newspaper tightly inside the boxes to make them sturdy. Make one photocopy of the donkey face for each box. Tape a donkey face on one end of each box. Tape a two-foot length of yarn from one side of each donkey's mouth to the other side. The yarn will act as the reins. Add yarn tails.

As children arrive, invite them to choose a hand towel "saddle" to put on a donkey and then climb on for a ride. They may also wish to put dolls on the donkeys and pretend to be good Samaritans helping the injured man. Tell children that the good Samaritan let the hurt man ride his donkey. Tell them that ► Jesus cares, just as the Samaritan cared for the man in the road.



**teacher tips**

Young children often need a great deal of help and encouragement in taking turns. Gently remind them often that it's time to give another friend a turn. Reinforce children's efforts to take turns with comments such as "I like how you give your friends a turn" and "When we take turns, everyone has fun."

## ■ Pick-Up Time

**SUPPLIES:** CD player



As Arrival Activities draw to a close, gently mention that it will soon be time to clean up. Encourage children to help you pick up things in the room as you lead them in singing "Let's Pick Up All Our Things." Use the CD (track 2) and sing the song to the tune of "Looby Loo."


**teacher tips**

After Pick-Up Time, accompany the children to the story area. Have the adults in the room join the children in the story area to show the children that this is an important time.

**SING**

Let's pick up all our things.  
Let's pick up all our things.  
Let's pick up all our things  
And put them all away.

Everyone here can help.  
Everyone here can help.  
Everyone here can help.  
Let's put it all away.

Let's pick up all our things.  
Let's pick up all our things.  
Let's pick up all our things.  
It's time to stop our play.

## Bible Story Time

### ■ Bible Song

**SUPPLIES:** Bible, CD player

**BIBLE VERSE**


Say: **How do we know Jesus cares? First Peter in the Bible tells us ► Jesus cares.** Show children the Bible. **The Bible is God's special book. The Bible tells us about God. Let's sing about the Bible.** Using the CD (track 3), lead children in singing "God's Special Book" to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."

**SING**

This is God's special book.  
Yes, it's God's book you see!  
I learn about all God has done,  
And his love for me!

*(Repeat.)*

**Bible!**

### ■ Bible Story: Jesus Cares

**SUPPLIES:** none



Before class begins, please check to make sure the sensory items are still attached securely so the children can touch them without the danger of pulling the items off or putting them into their mouths.

**Panel 1**


Fold back the StoryBoard so children see only Panel 1. Say: **Let's hear a story and learn how much ► Jesus cares. Let's find some story pictures.** Ask if children can find the following pictures. Have different pairs of children point to the following story pictures and touch the sensory items:



- the hurt man (lift the patch on the shirt and touch the owie),
- the robbers (touch the robbers and their moneybag),
- the rocks (touch the rocks), and
- the moneybag (jingle the coins in the moneybag).

When each child has had a turn to touch a story picture, set the StoryBoard on the floor. Say: **One day a man walked along a road. Show me how the man walked.** Lead the children in walking in place. **Robbers hit the man and pushed him down on the rocks. Fall down and pretend you're hurt.** Lie on the floor and groan. **Then the robbers stole the man's money and ran away. Stand up, and run!** Run with the children to the other side of the room and back.

Have children return to their places. Hold up the StoryBoard.

Ask: • **Will anyone help the hurt man?** Let children respond.

Say: ► **Jesus cares for us all the time. But sometimes people forget to care for each other. Let's see if anyone cares for this man.**



If you have very young children in your class, let them simply find and touch the StoryBoard pictures and sensory items instead of doing the activity as written. Repeat the Bible Point often, and reinforce learning with hugs and smiles.



### Panel 2



Unfold Panel 2, and hold up the StoryBoard. Say: **The man lying in the road said, "Will anyone care for me?" He heard someone coming. Step, step, step. Pat your knees like someone's walking. Step, step, step, step, stop.** Push the priest figure up through the slit in the StoryBoard. **It was a priest with a very nice robe. Let's touch his robe.** Have children touch the velvet around the priest's neck. Then ask:

• **Do you think the priest cares for the man and will stop?** Allow children to express their ideas.

Shake your head "no" as you move the priest figure past the man. Say: **The priest did not help the man. The priest walked right by. Step, step, step, step, stop.** Remove the priest figure from the slit.

**Oh! Someone else is coming. Maybe he'll help the man in the road. Step, step, step. Pat your knees. Step, step, step, step, stop.** Push the Levite figure up through the slit. **Look, it's a churchman called a Levite. He looks so fine. Let's touch his pretty robe.** Have pairs of children touch the tasseled trim on the Levite's robe.

Ask: • **Do you think the Levite will care for the man?** Allow children to respond.

Shake your head "no" as you move the Levite figure past the man. Say: **The Levite did not help the man. The Levite walked right by. Step, step, step, step, stop.** Remove the Levite figure from the slit.

Ask: • **Does anyone care for the man?** Allow children to respond.

Say: ► **Jesus cares! Jesus cares for us all the time. Oh! Listen...someone else is coming!**



### Panel 3



Unfold Panel 3, and hold up the StoryBoard.  
Say: **Who's coming down the road? Clip-clop. Pat your knees. Clip-clop, clip-clop, clip-clop, stop.** Pause. **It was the good Samaritan on his donkey. Let's pat the good Samaritan's donkey.** Invite children to pat the fur on the donkey.


**BIBLE POINT** ▶

The good Samaritan got off his donkey and helped the hurt man. Let's help the hurt man, too. Have children lift the patch and dab the man's injury with a cotton ball, and then replace the patch. Encourage children to give the man a comforting pat and say the Bible Point, ▶ "*Jesus cares.*"

After everyone has helped the man, say: **Then the good Samaritan carried the man on his donkey to a place where the man could get well. Clip-clop, pat your knees. Clip-clop, clip-clop, clip-clop, stop.**

Ask: • **Who cared for the hurt man?** (The good Samaritan; Jesus; God.)

Say: **The good Samaritan cared for the man. And Jesus cared for the hurt man. ▶ *Jesus cares* for us all the time. When we need help, Jesus sends people to care for us just as the good Samaritan cared for the hurt man. Let's sing a fun song about the good Samaritan.**



**Important:** Put the StoryBoard away and out of reach of children.

## ■ The Good Samaritan

**SUPPLIES:** CD player


**BIBLE POINT** ▶


Say: **We've been learning that ▶ *Jesus cares.* And we heard a story about how the good Samaritan cared. Let's sing a song about the good Samaritan.**

Using the CD (track 6), lead children in singing "The Good Samaritan" to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."


**SING**

The man lay in the road.  
The man lay in the road.  
Oh me, oh my, don't pass me by.  
The man lay in the road.

A priest walked right by.  
A Levite walked right by.  
Oh me, oh my, don't pass me by.  
They both walked right by.

The good Samaritan helped.  
The good Samaritan helped.  
Hooray! Hooray! He saved the day!  
The good Samaritan helped.


**BIBLE POINT** ▶


Say: **I'm so glad that ▶ *Jesus cares.* Jesus loves us. Jesus died on the cross so we can be forgiven for the bad things we do. I'm so glad Jesus loves us and helps us! Jesus told about the good Samaritan who helped the man in the road. Let's see who helps us.**

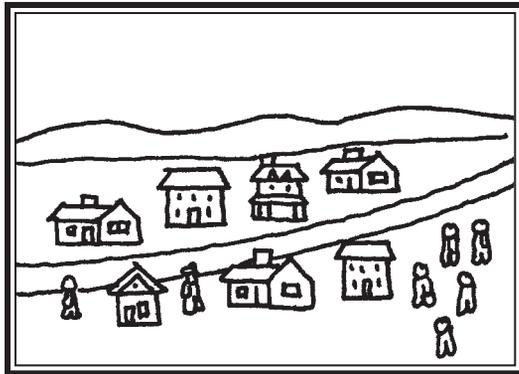
# Bible Activities

## Interactive Bible Bulletin Board

**SUPPLIES:** community helpers patterns (pp. 36-37), scissors, tape, paper cup, red marker, brightly colored markers, clear Con-Tact paper, masking tape, CD player, beanbag



Before class, photocopy the community helpers patterns and cut out the helpers. Be sure there's a helper cutout for each child. Cut the top half off of a paper cup, and use the bottom portion of the cup as a nurse's hat for Cuddles. Draw a Red Cross sign on the front of the hat, and tape the hat on Cuddles' head.



Also before class, make an extra copy of the community helpers. Then color them with brightly colored markers and cut them out. You'll use this set for a beanbag toss game.



*Bring out Cuddles the Lamb wearing the nurse hat. Go through the following script, and then put Cuddles out of sight.*

**Teacher:** Hello, Cuddles. What do you have on your head?

**Cuddles:** Well, maybe this riddle will help you guess. I care for people when they're sick. Who am I? *(Allow children to guess.)* I'm a nurse! Well, I'm dressed like one, anyway.

**Teacher:** That's good, Cuddles. We've been learning that ► Jesus cares and that he sends people to help us. Nurses are good helpers. Would *you* like to help us with the bulletin board?

**Cuddles:** I'd like that. What can I do?

**Teacher:** Well, we're going to put up pictures of people who care for us just as ► Jesus cares.

*Set the helper cutouts on the floor, and let each child choose the cutout he or she wants to put on the bulletin board. Help each child tape a picture to the bulletin board. Have children point to the pictures they've placed on the bulletin board and tell who the helpers are.*

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Tape the extra set of community helpers on the floor, about six inches apart, using large pieces of clear Con-Tact paper to keep them from moving. You can place the community helpers in a circle or in a line. Place a line of masking tape for the children to stand behind, about one foot from the figures.



Gather the children together behind the line. Show the children the beanbag.



### BIBLE POINT ▶

Say: **The good Samaritan showed that he cared by helping the hurt man get better, even when no one else wanted to help. ▶ *Jesus cares* for us, just as the good Samaritan cared for the hurt man. But that's not all. Jesus wants us to help others, too. Let's say, "Jesus cares."**

Pause to let each child say "Jesus cares."

Say: **I taped our community helpers on the floor so we can play a fun game. You'll each get a turn to toss the beanbag onto a helper. We'll all say the name of the helper, and then you can tell us how that helper helps people.**

Let the children take turns tossing the beanbag on one of the community helpers. Place the beanbag on the helper it lands nearest to. Lead children in saying the name of the helper, and then discuss what that helper does. Continue playing until everyone has had at least one chance to toss the beanbag.

Ask: • **Who is your favorite community helper? Why?** (The police, because they keep us safe; doctors, because they make us well.)

• **Community helpers help us. What can you do this week to help someone?** (Pick up my toys; be nice to my sister.)



### BIBLE POINT ▶

Say: ▶ ***Jesus cares*, and he sends people to help us. Let's sing a fun song.**

Lead children in singing "God Cares" (1 Peter 5:7) with the CD (track 7) to the tune of "Looby Loo."



### SING

**Give all your cares to God.  
Give God your worries, too.  
Give all your cares to God.  
God cares what happens to you.**

(Repeat 2x.)

After the song, remove the taped community helpers from the floor.

Say: **Jesus sends many different people to care for us and help us.**

**Mommies and daddies care for us. And teachers and church friends care for us. But guess who cares for us most of all? ▶ *Jesus cares!***



### BIBLE POINT ▶

**Let's show how glad we are that ▶ *Jesus cares* for us. We can sing "The Good Samaritan" song.**

## ■ Sing It Out

**SUPPLIES:** CD player



Remove the *foam friends* from the Learning Lab. Using the CD (track 6), lead children in singing "The Good Samaritan" to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell." Encourage children to act out the song by lying in a make-believe road throughout the song. Give *foam friends* to two children, who will act the parts of the priest and the Levite. Help them walk among the children during the second verse. Give the third *foam friend* to another child, who will be the good Samaritan during the third verse, and encourage him or her to pat the other children on the head.

**SING**

The man lay in the road.  
 The man lay in the road.  
 Oh me, oh my, don't pass me by.  
 The man lay in the road.

A priest walked right by.  
 A Levite walked right by.  
 Oh me, oh my, don't pass me by.  
 They both walked right by.

The good Samaritan helped.  
 The good Samaritan helped.  
 Hooray! Hooray! He saved the day!  
 The good Samaritan helped.

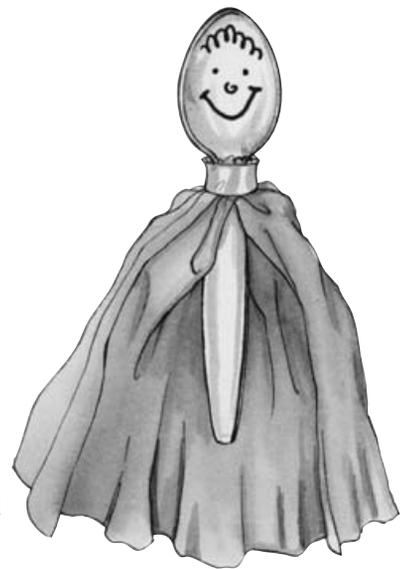
If you have time, repeat this activity and let other children play the parts of the priest, the Levite, and the good Samaritan. When you're finished, place the *foam friends* back in the Learning Lab.

Say: **The Samaritan was a good helper. Let's make pretend helpers of our own.**

## ■ Bible Craft

**SUPPLIES:** white plastic spoons, fine-tipped markers, colored facial tissues, tape

Hand each child a white plastic teaspoon. Show children how to turn their spoons over so the rounded part looks like a round face. Help each child use a marker to make eyes, a nose, and a mouth on the spoon "face." Tape a colored-tissue cape around the handle for clothing. As children work, ask questions such as "Who helps you?" and "What helper did you make?" Remind children that ► *Jesus cares* for us, and we're glad he sends us helpful people.



## ■ Bible Game

**SUPPLIES:** spoon puppets from previous activity, CD player



Invite children to use the helper puppets they made during the Bible Craft to "help" act out the following rhyme. Children can hug their puppets or let their puppets hug them for the rhyme's actions.

**Jesus has a hug  
 For people everywhere.  
 We can hug them, too,  
 And show them that we care!**

If there's time, repeat the rhyme and encourage children to hug a friend during the last line of the rhyme. Say: ► ***Jesus cares* for us, and he loves us a whole bunch! Let's sing our song called "God Cares."**

With the CD (track 7), lead children in singing "God Cares" (1 Peter 5:7) to the tune of "Looby Loo."





## SING

Give all your cares to God.  
Give God your worries, too.  
Give all your cares to God.  
God cares what happens to you.

(Repeat 2x.)

After the song, say: **Now let's show we care for each other by sharing a yummy snack!**



BIBLE POINT



See page 5.

## Closing

### ■ Thank You, Jesus

**SUPPLIES:** sugar cookies, paper plate, napkins, paper cups, milk

Gather children at the snack table. Say: **Today we learned that ► Jesus cares and that he sends people to care for us. Just as the good Samaritan helped the man in the road, people we love can care for us when we need help. That's pretty special, isn't it? Let's pray and thank God that ► Jesus cares. Hold the hands of the friends sitting next to you. Pray: Dear God, thank you for helping us. Thank you for giving us Jesus, who cares for us all the time. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Hold up a plate of small sugar cookies. Say: **Today we have Care Cookies for a snack. When you take a cookie from the plate, say, ► "Jesus cares."** Help children say the Bible Point as they each choose a cookie. Pour half a cup of milk for each child. As children eat, make comments such as "I'm so glad Jesus gives us people who care about us" and "Care Cookies are good, and so is caring for other people."

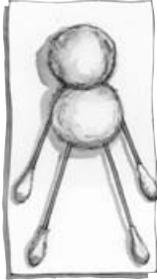
Remind children to take their helper puppets home.



## For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

### ■ *Soft Touch*



Tell children that we can care for people when they're hurt. Point out that it's nice to be gentle and use soft cotton balls and cotton swabs to wash skinned knees or elbows. Hand each child two cotton balls, four cotton swabs, and a sheet of paper. Show children how to make a cotton person by laying the cotton balls on the paper for the head and body. Use cotton swabs for the arms and legs. Help children glue the head and body and tape the arms and legs in place. Talk about how the cotton person feels. Remind children that ► Jesus cares and we can care for people, too.

### ■ *Story Dough*

Set out modeling dough. You can find a recipe for it on page 55. Encourage children to make various forms from the Bible story, such as the donkey, the good Samaritan, and the hurt man. As children play with the modeling dough, ask questions such as "Who helped the man in the road?" and "Who cares for us all the time?" Tell children that ► Jesus cares and sends people to help us when we need help.

# Patterns

Cut loosely around each pattern instead of cutting exactly on the outlines.



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Cut loosely around each pattern instead of cutting exactly on the outlines.



