



## January 15, 2017

**Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**Key Question:** Who is there when you need Him?

**Bottom Line:** Jesus is there when I need Him.

**Memory Verse:** “You are everything I need.” Psalm 119:57, NIV

**Bible Story Focus:** Everyone needs Jesus.

Healing the Deaf Man • *Mark 7:32-37*

### **Make It Fun**

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as Your 5&6 year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

#### **1. Four Corners**

*“Four Corners” is an activity that uses color recognition and gross motor movements to introduce today’s Bible story.*

**What You Need:** Red, green, blue, and yellow construction paper (2 pieces of each color)

#### **What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Place the red, green, blue, and yellow construction paper in each corner of the room—one color per corner. Hold the matching colors of paper in your hand. Gather the children in the center of the room.

*During the Activity:* Point out the four pieces of colored paper in the four corners of the room, reviewing each color as you point them out. Explain to the children that when you hold up one of the colors, they must go to that color corner in the room. Remind them to walk and not run. Start by holding up a color. Explain that you will not speak but just SHOW them the colors. They must look and pay attention to the new color for each round. Once all children have made it to that corner of the room, call them back to the center of the room to repeat with a different color. Repeat as time and interest allow.

#### **What You Say:**

*During the Activity:* “Today, we’re going to play a fun game called ‘Four Corners.’ Take a look around the room. Do you see the colored papers in each corner? Let’s see, over here I see green. (*Point.*) And what’s in that corner over there? (*Point to a different corner, and repeat with the remaining colors/corners.*) Great job! Today, I want to see how well you can look and pay attention! I’m not going to call out or say a color; I’m just going to hold up a piece of paper. When you see a color, I want you to WALK to the

corner with the same color paper. Remember, you have to look and pay attention! Are you ready? Here we go!”

*After the Activity:* “Was it hard to stop and look at the colors I was holding up? Do you think this game would have been a little easier if I had called out the colors? What if you still couldn’t hear me even when I called them out? Today in our Bible story, we’re going to hear about a man who couldn’t hear.”

## **2. Charades**

*“Charades” is an activity that allows the children to show creativity as they act out certain actions. This activity also teaches creative thinking while the children try to guess the actions of their classmates.*

**What You Need:** “Charades” Activity Page, white paper, and scissors

### **What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Copy the “Charades” Activity Page onto the white paper and cut along the dotted lines. You should have six separate cards.

*During the Activity:* Place the cards in a stack face down in the activity area. Have the children sit in a circle. Choose one child to go first. The child will choose the top card and act out the action on the card without talking. Encourage the other children to try to guess the action that the child is doing. (Consider taking a turn yourself before the children do to demonstrate the game. Especially do this if the children act confused while you’re explaining the game.) Repeat the activity with the remaining cards by letting different children have a turn. Make sure all of the children have a turn by reusing the cards if necessary.

*After the Activity:* Introduce the Bible story.

### **What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* “We are going to play a game! Are you ready?”

*During the Activity:* “Here is a stack of cards. (*Point.*) In this game you will draw a card and do the action on the card. You cannot talk, though! I will go first to show you. (*Demonstrate.*) Great job! Now it’s your turn! You will use your eyes to watch your friends act and you will use your ears to listen to all of the guesses. Are you ready?” (*Do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “Great job! It’s so much fun to play games. God gave us senses to be able to do things. He gave us eyes to see with and EARS to listen with. Just like we saw our friends acting today and heard what our other friends were guessing. Today our Bible story is about a man who could not hear and he couldn’t talk. I’m excited for you to hear it!”

## **Make It Stick**

These activities are designed to help preschoolers understand and remember today's Bible story and Bottom Line. Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

### **1. Loud and Soft**

*"Loud and Soft" is an activity that teaches following directions and voice control while repeating this month's Memory Verse.*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

#### **What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Have the children sit in a circle in the activity area. Say the memory verse with the children.

*During the Activity:* Say the memory verse again, but this time challenge the children to say it louder than the first time. Say the verse a third time even louder. Ask the children to say it as loud as they can. Then ask the children to say the verse with a softer voice. Then challenge them to say it even softer. Lastly, ask the children to say the verse as softly as they can. Repeat as desired.

#### **What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* "Do you remember our memory verse for this month? *(Pause.)* Awesome! Let's say it together! Are you ready? *(Pause.)* *You are everything I need, Psalm 119:57. Great job!*"

*During the Activity:* "Now let's try to say it louder than before. Here we go! *You are everything I need, Psalm 119:57. WOW! That was loud! I bet you can say it EVEN LOUDER! Let's try! (Say verse.)* Oh my goodness! That was so loud it hurt my ears! Let's say it softer this time. *(Say verse.)* That is better. Can you say it even softer? *(Say verse.)* Now let's say it as softly as we can. *(Say verse.)* I could barely hear you that was so quiet!"

*After the Activity:* "Great job, friends! Our memory verse tells us that God is all we NEED. He will always be there to help us and always gives us what we NEED. God is all that we NEED! **Who is there when you need Him? [Bottom Line] Jesus is there when I need Him!**"

## 2. Ears and Mouth Story

*“Ears and Mouth Story” is an activity that uses imagination and pantomime to review today’s Bible story.*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Ask the children to point to their mouths and ears. Explain that as you talk about today’s story, you want them to pay attention and point to their ears or mouths at the right time in the story.

*During the Activity:* Retell today’s Bible story using the text below.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* “Everyone point to your ears! (*Point to ears.*) Great. Now everyone point to your mouths! (*Point to mouth.*) Good listening. Today I’m going to review our Bible story. I want you to listen very carefully. When I talk about ears, I want you to point to your ears like this. (*Demonstrate.*) When I talk about a mouth, I want you to point to your mouth like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Okay, you seem ready. Let’s get started!”

*During the Activity:* “Today’s story is about a man who couldn’t hear. His EARS didn’t work correctly. (*Point to ears.*) Can you imagine what it would be like if your EARS didn’t work? (*Point to ears.*) But that’s not all. This man’s MOUTH also didn’t work. (*Point to mouth.*) Wow! It would be so hard if your MOUTH didn’t work. (*Point to mouth.*) You wouldn’t be able to sing or talk! He needed help. None of the doctors could make his MOUTH (*point to mouth*) or his EARS (*point to ears*) work. But there was someone who could help him: Jesus! Jesus is always ready to help us. So Jesus touched the man’s EARS. (*Point to ears.*) Then He spit on the ground, looked up to heaven, and said: “*Be opened!*” (*Mark 7:34 NIV*). And just like that, the man’s MOUTH (*point to mouth*) and his EARS (*point to ears*) worked! Wow! Jesus was there to help him. Is Jesus there to help us? (*Pause.*) Is Jesus there some of the time or all of the time? (*Pause.*) Yes! **Who is there when you need Him? [Bottom Line] Jesus is there when I need Him.”**

## 3. Colorful Actions

*“Colorful Actions” is an activity that teaches color recognition and following directions.*

**What You Need:** “Actions” Activity Page, white paper, 2 square tissue boxes, clear tape, 12 pieces of construction paper (2 of each of the following colors: red, yellow, green, blue, purple, and orange), wall tape, and scissors

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy the “Actions” Activity Page onto the white paper and cut along the dotted lines. You will have six squares with actions on them. Tape one square to each side of one tissue box. Make sure each square is secure. This will look like a die when completed. Next, make a second die with the second tissue box using colors. Cut

squares out of one piece of each color of construction paper and tape them onto each side of the tissue box. Each side of the die should be a different color. Make sure the paper is taped securely. Lastly, using the wall tape, tape the six remaining pieces of construction paper to different parts of the activity area.

*During the Activity:* Have the children stand in front of you. You should take the first turn. Roll both dice. Walk to the color in the room that matches the color on the color die and do the action on the action die. (Example: You roll red on the color die and jump on the action die. Walk to the color red on the wall and jump once there.) Choose a child to go next. He will roll both dice and repeat. Continue until each child has had a turn.

### **What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* "We are going to play a fun game. Be sure to put your listening EARS on so you will know what to do!"

*During the Activity:* "There are colors all over our room. (Walk to each one as you speak.) There is yellow, red, green, orange, blue, and purple. (Roll both dice.) You are going to roll both dice. (Hold up dice.) You will then walk to the color on the wall that matches the color on your die. Once you're standing at the color, you will do the action from your action die. Watch me. (Roll dice.) I got "purple" and "spin," so I will walk to the color purple and spin. (Demonstrate.) Are you ready to have a turn? (Pause.) Here we go!" (Do activity.)

*After the Activity:* "Awesome! You did a great job! We really had to use our ears to listen to know how to play that game. God gave us our ears and in our story today He helped the man's ears work again. I know the man was so happy that Jesus gave him what he needed. Jesus always gives us what we need! **Who is there when you need Him?** [Bottom Line] **Jesus is there when I need Him!**"

## **4. Ears**

*"Ears" is an activity that allows the children to create a visual of today's Bible story to take home.*

**What You Need:** "Ears" and "Ear Label" Activity Pages, Avery® labels #5160 or equivalent, scissors, mini white paper plates, markers, and a stapler

### **What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Copy the "Ears" Activity Page. Cut out each ear along the dotted lines. Each child will need a set of ears. Copy the "Ear Label" Activity Page onto the labels. You will need one label per child.

*During the Activity:* Give each child a paper plate and the markers. Instruct the children to draw a face on the plate. Help them staple one ear to each side of the plate. Hand out the labels and ask children to place it on the back of their plates.

### **What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* “God gives us what we need. He gave us EARS to hear with! In our story today, God made the man’s ears work again!”

*During the Activity:* “We’re going to make the man from our story today. You can take him home and tell your family how Jesus helped him when he needed Him! First, we need to make his face. (*Hand out the paper plates and markers.*) Use the markers to make a face in the center of your plate. (*Allow the children to work.*) Nice job! Now he needs his ears! (*Staple the ears to the plate.*) Now all we have to do is place the label on the back of the plate. (*Put on labels.*) Perfect! Now he’s ready to go home and help you tell your family how Jesus helped him!”

*After the Activity:* “Jesus is always there when we need Him. The man in our story needed Jesus and He helped the man hear again! Jesus is there when you need Him too. **Who is there when you need Him? [Bottom Line] Jesus is there when I need Him!**”

### **Prayer**

**SGL:** “Dear God, we all need Jesus. I need Jesus. [Child’s name] needs Jesus. [Another child’s name] needs Jesus. (*Repeat with each child’s name.*) Our families, friends, and everyone on our list need Jesus. Today we pray that (*read the people on the list*) will go to You whenever they need someone, because You are all they need. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”