



## 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 the following activities as your 3&4 year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door. At this age not all children will participate, but most will want to be part of the fun.

#### **1. Body Parts**

*"Body Parts" is an activity that teaches children the different parts of the body.*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

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

*Before the Activity:* Have the children sit in front of you.

*During the Activity:* Ask the children to show you different body parts. Ask, "Where are your eyes?" Encourage the children to point to their eyes. Continue the activity by asking the children to show you their arms, legs, nose, and ears.

*After the Activity:* Introduce the Bible story.

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

*Before the Activity:* "God gave us everything that we need!"

*During the Activity:* "Do you know where your eyes are? Can you show me your eyes? (Pause.) YES! (Point to your eyes.) These are my eyes. Great job! Can you show me your arms? (Pause.) Way to go! (Hold up arms.) These are my arms! Do you know where your legs are? (Pause.) Perfect! (Lift up legs.) These are my legs! What about your nose? Can you show me your nose? (Pause.) You are so smart! YES! (Point to your nose.) This is my nose! How about your ears? Can you show me your ears? (Pause.) Awesome! (Point to your ears.) These are my ears!"

*After the Activity:* “God gave us all of our body parts. He gave us our ears so that we can hear things. In our Bible story today, we are going to hear about a man whose ears did not work! I wonder what happened!”

### **3. What Is That Sound?**

*“What Is That Sound?” is an activity that allows the children to use their sense of hearing to complete a task.*

**What You Need:** “Sounds” Activity Page, scissors, 4 small clean plastic non-opaque containers with lids (butter, yogurt, or icing containers, or plastic Easter eggs), raw beans, pom-poms, jingle bells, popcorn kernels, and a hot glue gun

*(NOTE: A hot glue gun should never be used near young children. Be sure to either use the glue gun before the children arrive or in an area far away from the children.)*

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

*Before the Activity:* Copy the “Sounds” Activity Page. Fill each of your plastic containers with one of the following supplies: beans, pom-poms, jingle bells, and popcorn kernels. Once you have filled each container, use the hot glue gun to glue the lids onto the containers. If you are using plastic eggs, simply glue the eggs closed. Be sure to let the glue dry completely before giving the containers to the children.

*During the Activity:* Lay the Activity Page out on the table next to each other. Place the containers nearby. Invite the children to shake the containers and use their ears to decide which item in the pictures are in the container that they are shaking.

*After the Activity:* Make sure every child has a chance to shake each container.

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

*Before the Activity:* “God gave us our ears so that we can hear things! Let’s practice using our ears!”

*During the Activity: (Lay out the Activity Page and the containers.)* “Each container (*hold up*) has something inside of it. Shake the container and look at these pictures. (*Point to Activity Page.*) Use your ears to decide which item is making the sound in the container. Let’s get shaking!” (*Do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* “Great job! You all used your ears wonderfully! Today’s Bible story is about a man whose ears did not work! Oh no! I cannot wait to find out what Jesus did!”

## **Make It Stick**

Choose two or more of the following activities to help make the Bottom Line stick. Lead the activities with small groups of children. Encourage children to play on their own if they do not wish to take part in an activity.

### **1. I Can Hear**

**What You Need:** Piece of red, yellow, and blue construction paper and wall tape

**What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Tape each piece of paper to the wall. Be sure to tape them at a level where the children can touch them.

*During the Activity:* Have the children sit in front of you and the wall with the papers on it. Retell the Bible story. After the story, ask the children to put their hands over their ears and the SGL will say one of the colors (red, yellow, or blue) softly, but audibly. Ask the children to come and touch the color that you said. Ask the children to then place their hands in their laps and the SGL will say the same color word again. Again ask the children to come up and touch the color that you said. Continue with the activity by doing the same with the other two colors. Tell the children that the first time you said the colors is how the man could hear before Jesus helped him and the second time you said the color is how he could hear after Jesus helped him.

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* "Our story today was about a man who could not speak or hear. Poor man!"

*During the Activity:* "The man's friends knew that only one person could help the man. Do you remember who that was? *(Pause.)* YES! It was Jesus! Jesus walked to the man and touched his ears. Then He spit and said, "Be opened" *(Mark 7:34 NIV)*. Do you remember what happened then? *(Pause.)* You got it! The man could hear and speak again! I am going to say the name of one of these colors. *(Point to the papers.)* I am either going to say red, yellow, or blue. Whatever color I say, I want you to come up and touch that color. Are you ready? *(Pause.)* Oh wait! I forgot to tell you to do something. Everyone put your hands over your ears! Now are you ready? *(Pause.)* Here we go!" *(Do activity with all three colors.)*

*After the Activity:* "You all did a great job! I bet it was hard to hear what I said the first time, because your hands were over your ears. But when you moved them you could hear me just fine. The man in our story was just like that! Before Jesus helped him, he could not hear, but after Jesus helped him, he could hear perfectly! Jesus gave him what he needed! **Who is there when you need Him? [Bottom Line] Jesus is there when I need Him!**"

### 3. Bubbles

**What You Need:** Bubbles

**What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Start blowing bubbles.

*During the Activity:* Ask the children to only use their fingers to pop the bubbles very softly. Challenge them to pop them while making very little noise. Blow more bubbles and this time ask the children to pop them by clapping them in their hands. Tell them to pop the bubbles loudly! Continue the activity several more times while rotating from popping the bubbles loudly to softly.

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* "YAY! Bubbles! I love bubbles! Can you pop them when I blow them?"

*During the Activity:* "Let's try to pop them very, very softly using only one finger. (*Demonstrate.*) Let's see how quiet we can be while we are popping them. Shhhhh. Great job popping the bubbles softly! Now let's pop the bubbles LOUDLY! You can use both hands and clap your hands to pop them! (*Demonstrate.*) Let's be LOUD! Great job! Let's pop them softly again." (*Continue activity several more times.*)

*After the Activity:* "God gave us our ears so that we can hear soft noises and loud noises. Jesus gives us what we need, like our ears, and He is always there when we need Him! **Who is there when you need Him? [Bottom Line] Jesus is there when I need Him!**"

### 4. Ears Headband

*"Ears Headband" is an activity that allows the children to create a visual of the Bible story.*

**What You Need:** "Ear Band" and "Headband Label" Activity Pages, Avery® labels #5160 or equivalent, scissors, crayons, sentence strips, and clear tape

**What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Copy the "Ear Band" Activity Page. Cut out each ear along the dotted lines. Be sure to not cut off the flap on the front of the ears. Fold the flap on the solid black line. Each child will need one set of ears. Copy the "Headband Label" Activity Page onto the labels. Each child will need one label.

*During the Activity:* Give each child a set of the ears and some crayons. Ask the children to color the ears. They can color them however they would like. They can even add

earrings if they would like. Then take the sentence strip and fit it around each child's head. Tape it in place to make a headband. Using the flap on the ears, tape the ears in the appropriate place. Only tape the flap, so the ears will stand out. Place the label on the sentence strip on the child's forehead.

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* "Today in our story, Jesus helped a man hear again. We hear with our ears."

*During the Activity:* "Let's make some big ears that we can take home and use to tell everyone about our story today! (*Hand out the ears.*) Use the crayons to color your ears any way you would like. You can make them look like your ears or someone else's!" (*Finish activity.*)

*After the Activity:* "Great job! Be sure to tell your family all about why you are wearing big ears today. Jesus gave the man what he needed by helping him hear again! Jesus gives us what we need too! **Who is there when you need Him? [Bottom Line] Jesus is there when I need Him!**"