



Unit 30 | Session 1

PETER PREACHED IN JERUSALEM

Acts 2

CHRIST CONNECTION:

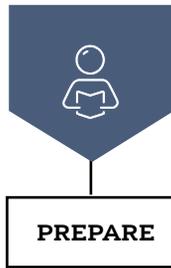
God used Peter to preach Jesus to the crowd so that thousands of people would believe and be changed as well. All who believe in Jesus are changed and will never be the same.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

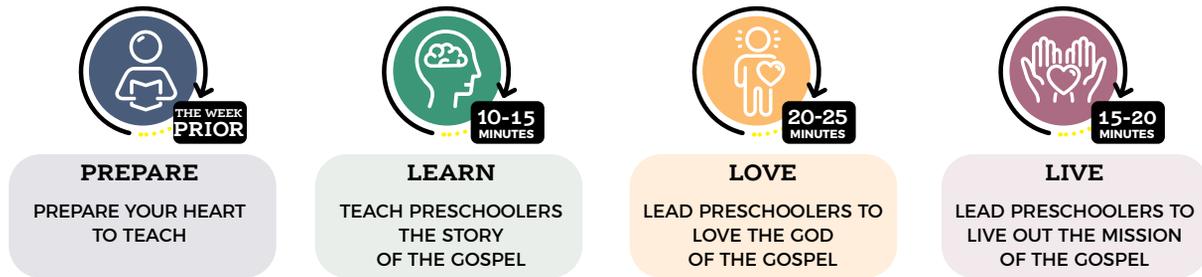
Why does God command Christians to tell others about Jesus?
We tell others about Jesus so they will hear and believe in Him.

KEY PASSAGE:

Romans 10:14



IN ADVANCE TO TEACH THE SESSION



LEADER Bible Study

The latter portions of Acts 2 relay the Holy Spirit’s transformational work within not only the apostle Peter’s life but also in the lives of thousands of new believers in Jerusalem. In what could have been a somber retelling of herd mentality gone wrong, we instead read of Peter’s life transformation on display as he followed the leading of Christ’s promised Helper, the Holy Spirit.

What evidence do we see of genuine life transformation in Peter’s life? How is the Holy Spirit’s power made evident by the legacy of the Acts 2 church?

The apostle Peter’s life was one of Scripture’s greatest examples of discipleship. Though he had personally journeyed for three years alongside the Savior, Peter struggled with fear, hesitancy, and uncertainty. He was the man who sank from doubt while walking on water and denied Jesus’ lordship not once—but three times. However, the Peter we find in Acts 2 seems to have overcome these stumbling blocks to his faith. But how? It was through the power of the Holy Spirit at work in his life, enabling and encouraging him to do the Lord’s will.

The miracle of discipleship did not end with Peter simply learning from Jesus and being filled with His Spirit, only to then retreat and retire from his personal spiritual

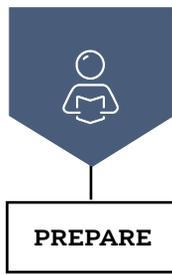
journey. Instead, he proclaimed the truth of the gospel’s good news for mankind and brought many new believers into the fold as well.

We read of Peter’s call to repentance for all those gathered in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost, but how can we know that these hearers truly experienced life transformation by the Spirit? The proof was in their legacy as a church, through the lifestyles they took on upon coming to the faith: devotion to the Scriptures, fellowship with one another, enjoying meals together, and prayer.

As you teach preschoolers this week, remember the role you play as a proclaimer of Christ’s truths to the next generation, taking part in His mission so that your preschoolers may follow suit. As you lead a life of faithfulness and fruitfulness, they will see and experience the power of the Holy Spirit at work in your life.

TERMS TO KNOW

Preaching in the Bible: human presentation through the Holy Spirit’s power of God’s acts of salvation through Jesus Christ



IN ADVANCE TO TEACH THE SESSION

GATHER Supplies

Keep these items on hand for each session: Allergy Alert, Bibles, construction paper, copy paper, washable markers, crayons, scissors (adult use), blunt-tipped scissors, glue sticks, glue, blocks, baby dolls, play dough, world map or globe, snack food, paper cups, and napkins.



Welcome and worship with song

- “From the Inside Out” song
- Giant Timeline or Small Group Timeline

Tell the Bible story

- Bible Story Picture Poster
- “Peter Preached in Jerusalem” video (optional)
- storytelling tips props (optional)
- “Crowd Photo” printable

Practice the key passage

- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “How Can They Believe (Romans 10:14)” song

Learn the big picture question

- Big Picture Question Poster

Respond through song and prayer

- “Working in You” song
- “One Foundation (Preschool Version)” song

Swap instruments

- preschool rhythm instruments

Pray and eat

- table decorations
- table coverings
- snacks
- drinks
- poster board

Bead bracelet reminders

- chenille stems
- pony beads (variety of colors)

Tape and paint

- plastic tablecloth
- smocks
- watercolor paper
- masking or painter’s tape
- cups of water
- watercolor paint
- paintbrushes
- paper towels

Review

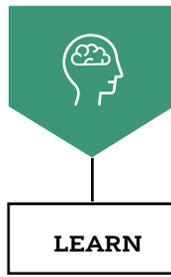
- Giant Timeline
- “How Can They Believe (Romans 10:14)” song

Missions Moment

- “The White Family in Guatemala” missions video

Move and Freeze

- device that plays music



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 WELCOME AND WORSHIP WITH SONG

Greet preschoolers with a smile. As preschoolers arrive, sing an action song such as “From the Inside Out” to engage them and help them feel welcomed.

2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Before the session, print the “Crowd Photo” printable. Write the number 3,000 on a sheet of paper. Invite preschoolers to guess the number. Show the printable to the children and talk about how crowds contain a large number of people.

SAY “In today’s Bible story, about three thousand people became followers of Jesus. Crowds of people wanted to hear and learn about Jesus.”

Open your Bible to Acts 2. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

PETER PREACHED IN JERUSALEM

“God had sent the Holy Spirit to Jesus’ disciples, and the disciples spoke in other languages. People began to gather around them to see what was going on. They heard what the disciples were saying, but they did not understand what was happening.

Peter stood up to talk to the crowd. “You saw the miracles Jesus did,” he said. “God planned for Jesus to die. Then God raised Jesus from the dead! Now, Jesus is sitting beside God in heaven, and He sent the Holy Spirit to us.”

Then Peter said, “Jesus is the Lord and Messiah! You killed Him on a cross!”

The people knew Peter was telling the truth. “What should we do?” they asked.

“Turn away from your sins and be baptized,” Peter said. “God will forgive your sins, and you will get the Holy Spirit, too.”

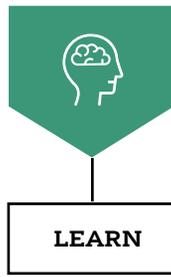
That day, about three thousand people turned away from their sins and were baptized. They all believed and became followers of Jesus. They met together, ate together, and prayed together. They shared what they had and praised God. Every day, more and more people were saved.”

Christ Connection: God used Peter to preach Jesus to the crowd so that

STORYTELLING TIPS

Revisit Bible story pictures: Show preschoolers past Bible story picture posters depicting the life of Jesus, including His miracles, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension as you recall events throughout the story.

Share a snack: Place individually packaged treats on a serving tray. Tell preschoolers that you would like to share your food with them. Invite them to select a treat from the tray and eat it as they listen to today’s Bible story. Tell them to listen closely to find out what the people in the story did together. Emphasize how the people helped each other by sharing what they had, praying for one another, and meeting and eating together.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

thousands of people would believe and be changed as well. All who believe in Jesus are changed and will never be the same.

3 PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the key passage marker at Romans 10:14. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read aloud the verse. Use movements to help preschoolers learn the verse. Touch your ears when saying the words “hear” or “hearing.” Read the verse a few more times, prompting preschoolers to touch their ears when hearing the key words. Challenge preschoolers to say the verse and do the movement with you.

SAY “ People need to hear about Jesus. In today’s Bible story, Peter told a big crowd of people about Jesus, and the people listened. They believed Jesus is God’s Son and the Savior of the world. They became followers of Jesus. ”

Sing the key passage song “How Can They Believe (Romans 10:14).”

4 LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY “ Guess what? We have a new big picture question and answer to learn! The question is, **Why does God command Christians to tell others about Jesus?** The answer is, **We tell others about Jesus so they will hear and believe in Him.** God used Peter to preach Jesus to the crowd so thousands of other people would believe and be changed as well. Believing in Jesus changes a person’s life for the better. ”

5 RESPOND THROUGH SONG AND PRAYER

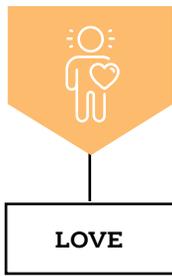
SAY “ God used Peter to preach Jesus to the crowd so that thousands of other people would believe and be changed as well. All who believe in Jesus are changed and will never to be the same. ”

Sing “Working in You” as preschoolers move with the music. Prepare for prayer by singing “One Foundation (Preschool Version).” You may also collect an offering.

SAY “ God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to be my Savior. Help us as we learn more about Jesus. Amen. ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God because of what we learned

1 DRAW AND COUNT



Cover a table with butcher paper or large sheets of paper and tape down the edges. Guide preschoolers to use washable markers or crayons to draw pictures of people on the paper. Demonstrate how to draw a stick figure. Tell preschoolers they are working together to draw a big crowd of people. Announce when they should stop drawing and count the number of people pictures on the paper.

SAY “People need to hear and learn about Jesus. God used Peter to preach Jesus to the crowd so that thousands of other people would believe and be changed as well. All who believe in Jesus are changed and will never be the same.”

2 SWAP INSTRUMENTS

Lead children to play rhythm instruments as you sing the following song to the tune of “Are You Sleeping?”:

We tell others (we tell others)

About Jesus (about Jesus)

So that they will hear and (so that they will hear and)

Believe in Him (believe in Him)

Instruct children to swap instruments with a friend and sing the song again. Continue singing and swapping instruments for as long as preschoolers are interested.

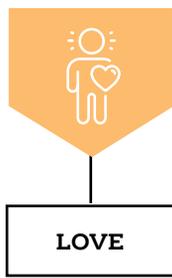
SAY “Thank you for taking turns and swapping instruments with your friends. In today’s Bible story, thousands of people believed and trusted in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. They became followers of Jesus. They shared what they had with one another, just like you shared your instruments. They met together and prayed for one another.”

3 PRAY AND EAT



Set up a dramatic play area to resemble a restaurant. Decorate and cover tables. Offer a couple of different snack and drink options. Prepare a menu by cutting and taping pictures from the snack and drink boxes or wrappers onto a piece of poster board. Display the menu. Ask volunteers to take orders and serve snacks. Then, have an adult leader serve the volunteers. Pray together before eating.

SAY “Thank you for letting me help at your restaurant. In one day, about three thousand people became followers of Jesus. They met together, ate together, and prayed together. We did the same things today at church! They shared what they had and praised God. Every day, more and more people were saved.”



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

4 BEAD BRACELET REMINDERS

Place a variety of different-colored beads within reach. Form small groups. Give each child a chenille stem. Prompt a child in the group to mention his favorite color. Each preschooler in the group will find the bead color mentioned and place it on a chenille stem. Continue until a different-colored bead is added to each bracelet to represent each child in the group. Move around the room and help preschoolers turn the beaded chenille stem into a bracelet by trimming and wrapping the ends. Invite members of the group to mention their favorite color again and a prayer request. Lead the group in prayer for each child and request. Encourage preschoolers to wear the bracelets to remind them to pray for their friends during the week.

SAY “Your bracelet can remind you of your friends and their favorite colors. Can you pray for your friends? God used Peter to preach Jesus to the crowd, and about three thousand people became followers of Jesus. They met together, ate together, and prayed together. They shared what they had and praised God.”

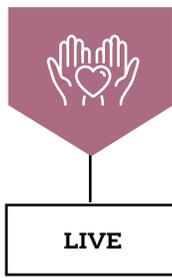
5 TAPE AND PAINT

Before the session, tape a cross shape on a sheet of watercolor paper for each preschooler. Cover the table with a plastic tablecloth and assist children with placing smocks over their clothes. Place watercolor paints, cups of water for rinsing brushes, and paper towels for drying brushes within reach. Give each child a sheet of the watercolor paper and a paintbrush. Ask preschoolers to identify the shape taped to the paper. Guide each child to paint over the edges of the tape and on the paper. Set the painting aside to dry. Remove the tape at the end of the session.

SAY “What shape do you see on your paper? Yes, a cross. God used Peter to preach Jesus to the crowd so that thousands of other people would believe and be changed. He reminded the people that Jesus died on a cross, and God planned for Jesus to be the Savior of the world. All who believe in Jesus are changed and will never to be the same.”

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE for God out of love

1 REVIEW

Point to the giant timeline as you review today's Bible story. Ask the following review questions.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (Preschoolers' answers will vary.)
2. Who preached about Jesus to the crowds of people? (Peter)
3. How many people turned away from their sin and were baptized? (about three thousand)
4. What did Jesus' followers do together? (They met together to worship and praise God, ate together, and shared what they had with one another.)
5. What do you know and believe about Jesus? (Preschoolers' answers will vary.)
6. **Why does God command Christians to tell others about Jesus? We tell others about Jesus so they will hear and believe in Him.**

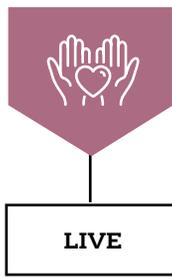
SAY “ One day, crowds of people gathered to hear what the disciples were saying about Jesus. God sent the Holy Spirit to Jesus' disciples, and the disciples spoke in other languages. Peter preached to the crowd. He reminded them that Jesus performed miracles, died on a cross, rose from the dead, and lives in heaven with God. Many people believed in Jesus that day. The believers met together to worship and praise God, ate together, and shared what they had with one another. God used Peter to preach Jesus to the crowd so that thousands of other people would believe and be changed as well. All who believe in Jesus are changed and will never to be the same. ”

Sing the key passage song “How Can They Believe (Romans 10:14).”

2 PRAY

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have. Pray for them.

SAY “ We worship and praise You, Jesus. Help us to learn more about You so we can share the good news of Your love with people we meet. Amen. ”



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

3 MISSIONS MOMENT

Show the “The White Family in Guatemala” missions video.

SAY “Guatemala is a country with mountains, volcanoes, and tropical forests. It a great place to grow bananas, avocados, cacao (chocolate), and coffee. The White family, David, Regina, Cruz, and Ben, love to tell people about Jesus in Antigua, Guatemala. Over 20 different Mayan people groups live in Guatemala. Each Mayan people group has their own way to dress and their own language.”

Lead a prayer for the White family and other missionaries in Central America. Ask God to give them courage and wisdom as they tell people about Jesus in Guatemala and around the world.

4 MOVE AND FREEZE

Play a song about Jesus sung in a different language while preschoolers move around the room. Periodically stop the music and tell them to freeze like statues. Announce a child’s name and ask him to tell something he knows about Jesus or what he remembers about today’s Bible story. Translate the title or some of the lyrics of the song. Continue to play until parents arrive.

SAY “God had sent the Holy Spirit to Jesus’ disciples, and the disciples spoke in other languages. Peter preached to the crowd. He reminded them that Jesus performed miracles, died on a cross, rose from the dead, and lives in heaven with God. Many people believed in Jesus that day.”