

# Life of Christ

## Jesus and the children

## Matthew 19:13-15

### Younger Verse

Speak the truth to each other. Zechariah 8:16

### Older Verse

Speak the truth to each other. Zechariah 8:16

### Lesson Goals

Tell how Jesus cared for the children.  
Share a way to care for others and respect them.  
Explain how Jesus showed us the ultimate example of kindness to others.

### Welcome Time

Sit among the children as you teach today. Really love them and show it! Affirm them and let them know how special they are to you and to God!

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

As Jesus traveled from city to city, He taught people about God's love and kindness. Many times His special helpers traveled with Him.

In one town, everyone was listening to Jesus as He told them about God. Some parents saw the crowd and brought their children to see Jesus. They wanted Jesus to bless their children and pray for them.

Jesus' friends thought Jesus had more important things to do. They told the parents to take the children away and not to bother Jesus.

When Jesus saw what was going on, He told His friends to "Let the children come to Me and do NOT stop them!"

The children ran to Jesus. He took them into His arms and asked God to care for them.

When Jesus told His friends to let the children come to Him, He was showing how much He cares for them. He was also showing how much God loves children.

At first, Jesus' friends did not love or respect the parents or children. They were more concerned for other things. Jesus helped them see that they should love and respect everyone because everyone is important to God. They learned a big lesson that day about caring for all people.

Remember that God cares for all people too. John 3:16 tells us that God showed His love for the world by sending Jesus to earth. God knew that when Jesus was on earth, angry men would kill Him, but God had a plan. It was a plan to show even more love to people. Jesus took our punishment for the wrong things we do when He died on a cross. Three days after Jesus died, God made Him alive again! He wasn't dead—He

was alive!

Because of what Jesus did, God can now forgive our wrongs.

If you really believe God sent Jesus to die and to live again, and if you tell Him about the wrong things you have done and ask Him to forgive you, then He will make you part of His forever family.

As a member of God's forever family, you need to talk with Him each day. If you do something wrong, you are still part of the family, but you need to ask Him to forgive you. And He will!

Remember, God cares for you and knows that you are very special.

**Learning Activities**

Choose activities that will help your kids learn how much Jesus loves them. Be a model of His love too.

**Memory Verse Activities**

Try saying the verse in different languages. Look at the sheet for ideas and pronunciations.

**Prayer Time**

As you pray today, thank God verbally for each child. Say their names in your prayer (you may want to use name tags so you know everyone by name).

**Snack Time/CleanUp**

For fun, have a contest to see which table can clean up the fastest (make sure the winning table has done a good job at cleaning up). Let the winning table help serve OR be the first in line for refreshments.

Planning for October 13th  
How can I be pure?  
Jesus' mother, Mary  
Luke 1:26-35; 38

Preschool Lesson  
for  
Jesus and the children

As Jesus traveled from city to city, He taught people about God's love and kindness. Many times His special helpers traveled with Him.

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Jesus' friends thought Jesus had more important things to do. They told the parents to take the children away and not to bother Jesus.

When Jesus saw what was going on, He told His friends to "Let the children come to Me and do NOT stop them!"

The children ran to Jesus. He took them into His arms and asked God to care for them.

When Jesus told His friends to let the children come to Him, He was showing how much He cares for children. He was also showing how much God loves children.

Sing, "Jesus loves the little children."

Another fun song is to the tune of "Are you sleeping?"

Jesus sat upon a hill—  
with His friends, with His friends.  
All the little children  
wanted to see Jesus  
So they ran, so they ran.

"Stop the children, stop the children."  
said the men, said the men.  
Jesus said, "I love them,  
and I want to bless them.  
Let them come. Let them come."

## Hands-on Activities for Jesus and the children

Play a form of Red Light, Green Light to help the kids understand the story. Bring a green piece of paper (for the green light) and a red piece of paper (for the red light). Explain to the kids that they will tiptoe forward when they see the green sheet and tiptoe backwards when they see the red sheet. Share that the children were going to Jesus (hold up a green light) when Jesus' friends told them to go away (red light). Jesus saw this and asked them to come (green light). Play several times or take turns in letting kids hold up the sheets of paper.

Make Jesus and children standup figures or paper dolls. Act out the story using the figures.

For the kids that like to work with their hands, let them design play dough figures and show them off to the others.

Pencil activities are also available for children who enjoy them. Remember, not all children are alike. Some learn by listening, others by acting out a story, by touching/feeling, or reading it in the Bible. Be thinking about how you can help every child learn the story and see how much Jesus loves them.

Have each child write their name on an envelope. While the kids are doing different learning activities, tell them that you are doing something special for them. Put a card in each child's envelope with a word of blessing. Examples may be: You're terrific; I like your smile; You are so friendly; You have pretty eyes; I like your drawing; You're beautiful to Jesus; You're a fun person, etc. The kids can open it later at home. You may want to put a Bible verse on the cards too.

Let the kids make a Jesus Banner. The heart in the middle says Jesus loves \_\_\_\_\_. Let them write their name in the blank and hang it on their wall at home.