Younger Preschool June 21

Bible Teaching: Timothy

Bible Passage: 1 and 2 Timothy

Summary:

Paul met Timothy during his missionary journeys. Timothy had been raised by his mother and grandmother to believe in God, and he became a follower of Jesus. He helped Paul as Paul shared Jesus and began churches. Timothy became a pastor. Paul wrote him two letters, instructing him how to best lead the church and reminding him that tough times would come. Paul encouraged Timothy to be an example to the believers even though he was young. Paul's letters to Timothy teach us that we have a role to play in helping God's church.

Today's Brite Idea is: God helps us do His work.

Monthly Memory Verse: (Hebrews 13:21)

May God equip you with everything good.

Monthly Big Question: Who can we ask for help? We can ask God!

Leader Training

Preschool Perspectives: Refusing to Be Involved

Sami comes into the group and immediately slumps in her chair. She refuses to color or even move to the floor for an activity. She won't answer any questions or even look you in the eyes. How can you disciple Sami if she refuses to engage at all?

- **Focus on the relationship.** Consistently greet the kid warmly. Try to find out about interests, even if you have to ask the parents at drop off.
- **Don't push but always invite.** As long as the kid is in a safe place, isn't hurting anyone or themselves and isn't doing anything destructive, there isn't harm in letting them sit and not participate. But always warmly invite them to join the group.
- **They can still learn.** If a kid is in your space, they will hear about Jesus. Even if they aren't participating the way you want them to, God can still use the truth in their hearts.
- **Pray.** Ask God to soften the kid's heart and to continually give you a soft heart toward them.

Navigating a Broken World: Rest

According to the CDC, one-third of children do not get the amount of sleep that they need.* Kids' sleep can be impacted by many factors, including stress, screens and parents' schedules. A lack of rest impacts kids physically, emotionally and academically. In addition to sleeping less, many kids are overscheduled, bouncing from one activity to another. Kids in your group may come in tired. They may also feel a need to be constantly active. In today's lesson, kids will learn about the work God calls us to do. We can help kids discover a healthy balance between serving the Lord and resting in Him. If your group has super busy kids, consider creating a quiet time in your group, allowing kids to be still and pray to God. Or play soft worship music for kids to sit and listen to as they worship Him.

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources.

Preschool Glossary:

Faithfulness: loyalty; doing what you say you're going to do
God's work: to help grow God's church and share the good news of Jesus

Younger Preschool

Small Group Roadmap

Belong (10 minutes)

Goal: For kids to experience God's love through a welcoming community

Stand Up For Jesus
Supplies: None

Bible Teaching (15 minutes)

Timothy (1 and 2 Timothy)
Supplies: Bible, Bible story cards

Believe (10 minutes)

Goal: For kids to discover who God is by engaging with the Bible

God Helps Us
Supplies: None

Become (10 minutes)

Goal: For kids to learn to follow Jesus by applying faith to their lives

Helpful Letter
Supplies: Take-Home page, cardstock (1 per 2 kids), coloring supplies

Stand Up for Jesus

Belong Activity Option 2

Supplies: None

Prep: None

Activity Intro: Welcome everyone! My name is _____. Can you each tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

Instructions:

1. **Say:** Let's play a listening game called "Stand Up for Jesus"!
2. **Say:** When I read something that God helps us do, like being kind or helping others, I want you to stand up and say: "God helps me!"
3. **Say:** But if it's something silly or something that's not part of God's work, stay sitting!
4. **Say:** Lets practice one, if I say "sharing my toys with a friend," what do we do?
5. *Remind kids to stand up and say "God helps me!"*
6. *Read each situation clearly, with pauses to give kids time to think and respond.*
    - *Helping clean up toys at church*
    - *Telling a friend "Jesus loves you"*
    - *Taking a nap at the zoo with a giraffe*
    - *Saying "I'm sorry" when I hurt someone*
    - *Eating cookies for breakfast, lunch and dinner*
7. **Ask:** What's something else you can do with God's help?

Activity Wrap-Up: You did a great job standing up for the things God helps us do!

Bible Teaching

Supplies: Bible, Bible story cards

Prep: Print the Bible story cards double-sided.

Timothy
(1 and 2 Timothy)

Say: Today's true story from the Bible comes from 1 and 2 Timothy. There was a young man named Timothy. Timothy learned a lot about God from his mother and grandmother. He had learned about God since he was very small. One day, Timothy met Paul. They both loved Jesus! Timothy went on trips with Paul.

Say: Paul sent Timothy to help churches. Timothy became a pastor of a church. Paul wrote letters to help Timothy lead his church. Can you pretend you are writing a letter? That letter is in the Bible and we call it 1 Timothy.

Say: Paul told Timothy to lead people like Jesus wanted him to. Timothy should show them how to teach from God's Word. Hold your hands open like you're opening the Bible. Even though he wasn't very old, Timothy could show others how to love Jesus.

Say: Paul was put in jail for telling people about Jesus. Say, "Oh no!" Paul wrote a second letter to Timothy. This letter told Timothy that sometimes bad things happen. Paul told Timothy that God always keeps His promises. He said, "Keep doing **God's work**. Don't let other things get in the way. Be kind and tell people God's truth."

Say: Timothy learned so much from Paul. He learned how to lead the church. He learned how to serve Jesus well. We can learn from the letters Paul wrote to Timothy. We can know that God helps us love others and tell them about Jesus.

Wrap-Up:
Big Question: Who can we ask for help? We can ask God!

Memory Verse: (Hebrews 13:21)
Watch the Memory Verse Video and practice the motions with the kids.

- May God equip *(roll hands around one another)*

- you with *(point out)*
- everything good. *(extend arms out)*
- Hebrews 13:21 *(open hands like opening a book)*

He: God works through His people.
We: God can work through us.
Me: God can work through me.

God Helps Us

Believe Activity

Supplies: None

Prep: None

Activity Intro: The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today, we learned that God helps us to do His work.

Instructions:

1. **Say:** In the Bible, Timothy was a young helper and leader. He followed Jesus and did God's work, just like we can!
2. **Say:** We're going to play a fun copy game! I'll show you a motion, and you copy me. These motions remind us that God helps us every day!
3. *Demonstrate each simple motion as you say it:*
    - *Help! (Pretend to pick up toys)*
    - *Be brave! (Strong arms up like a superhero)*
    - *Love! (Give yourself a big hug)*
    - *Share! (Pretend to hand something to a friend)*
    - *Listen! (Cup hand to ear)*
    - *Forgive! (Blow a kiss or pat heart)*
    - *Pray! (Clasp hands together)*
4. **Ask:** Who helped Timothy?

Activity Wrap-Up: Great job listening and playing! Timothy was young like you, and he did big things for God. God can help us too! This week, let's pray and ask God to help us each day.

Helpful Letters

Become Activity

Supplies: Take-Home page, cardstock (1 per 2 kids), coloring supplies, scissors (prep), stamps, stamp pads

Prep: Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Cut cardstock in half lengthwise (portrait orientation) (1 per 2 kids). Fold in half to make a card.

Instructions:

1. **Say:** Today we're making a Helpful Letter! We want to tell others about Jesus just like Timothy did!
2. *Hand each kid a card.*
3. **Say:** Let's make cards for someone we love to tell them about Jesus, just like Paul wrote letters to Timothy.
4. *On the right side of the inside fold of the card, write "Dear (the person the kid wants to give their card to)" Then write in big letters "Jesus Loves You."*
5. *Give coloring supplies, stamps, and stamp pads to the kids and encourage them to decorate their cards.*
6. *Write each kid's name on their card and set aside for parent pick-up.*

Discussion Questions:

- Who helps you be brave?
- Can God help you help others?
- Are you ever too small for God to help you?
- What good things can you do with God's help?

Pray Together: Dear Jesus, thank You that You help us to tell others about You! We love You! Amen.

Activity Wrap-Up: Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.

Centers

Set up 3–4 centers around the room for kids to explore and learn as they play. While kids explore the centers, leaders can work with individuals or small groups to make the craft. Set up each center in a separate part of the room, making sure all kids are visible at all times. Show the whole group what is in each center and give simple instructions on what kids should do in each center.

- **Blocks:** Provide blocks and encourage kids to help each other build something.
- **Book Center:** Provide picture books about kindness, helping, bravery and simple Bible stories (especially Paul and Timothy) for kids to explore.
- **Dramatic Play:** Provide dolls and other household items for kids to play helpers.

Bonus Bible Script

Preschoolers learn best through repetition. Use the script below to review the story at any opportunity. You could review the story while kids play in centers, while they work on their craft, during snack time or while waiting for parents.

Say: Paul met Timothy as he traveled to tell others about Jesus. Timothy was raised to believe in God and chose to follow Jesus. He helped Paul as Paul shared about Jesus and started churches. Timothy became a pastor. Paul wrote him two letters on how to best lead the church and reminding him that hard times would come. Paul told Timothy to be an example to believers even at his young age. Paul's letters to Timothy teach us how we have a job to do in helping God's church.

Who can we ask for help? We can ask God!