May 31, 2020

Bible Story Focus: God loves me, and I am special to Him.

The Lost Coin • Luke 15:8-10

Memory Verse: "Nothing at all can ever separate us from God's love."

Romans 8:39, NIrV

Key Question: Who loves you? **Bottom Line:** God loves me. **Basic Truth:** God loves me.

Coin Counting

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: Ten yellow paper plates or yellow circles made from paper and a permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Use the permanent marker to write the numbers, 1-10 on the center of each plate, one number per plate. Hide the plates around the house for the children to find.

During the Activity: Explain that there are ten coins hidden around the room. Allow the children to search until all ten "coins" are found. Then, work together to put them in order, counting to ten together.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "I've hidden ten coins around the room. Let's work together to find all ten. Then, we'll put them in order and count together."

After the Activity: "Great finding and counting! How many coins did we find? Yes, we found all ten! In our Bible story today, we'll hear about a woman who had ten coins, but she lost one! Do you think she found it? Let's find out."

Together

Hear from God | Memory Verse Review

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Have everyone stand in a circle.

During the Activity: Ask everyone to hold hands while they say the memory verse. Repeat several times.

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What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Our memory verse tells us that nothing can SEPERATE us from God's love."

During the Activity: "Let's hold hands and not SEPARATE while we say our memory verse." (Do activity.)

After the Activity: "God loves us so much, and He will never leave us! Who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me!"

<u>Hidden Coins</u>

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

What You Need: "Lost Coins" Activity Page (below), washable markers or crayons

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print the "Lost Coins" Activity Place the markers or crayons on the table.

During the Activity: Read the Bible story together. Encourage everyone in the family to search the picture to find ten coins. When a coin is found on the page, they circle it with a crayon or marker. When they've found all ten coins, children may color the rest of the page.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "This is the scene from our Bible story today. The woman in our story searched for one lost coin! But on this page, ten coins are hidden. Do you think we can find all ten? I think we can. As you find a coin, circle it with your crayon or marker."

After the Activity: "What great finders we are! Let's count all ten of the coins we found together. The woman in our Bible story searched and searched and was SO happy when she found the coin. It was special her! And guess what? YOU are special to God because [Bottom Line] God loves you."



Celebration Parade!

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: Various play or real musical instruments. Make shakers or use pots and pans if you don't have instruments.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the musical instruments in your activity area.

During the Activity: Pass out the instruments to everyone in the family, and have them line up behind you. Explain that when you raise your hands (*lift hands like a conductor*), everyone may march and play their instruments for your celebration parade! Wave your arms back and forth like a conductor as you lead your family in a march around the room.

After the Activity: Lower your arms as a signal for everyone to stop playing and marching. Collect all of the instruments for clean-up.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "What did the woman do when she found her coin? (Pause.) She celebrated! Let's have our own celebration parade. In just a moment, I will give you an instrument to play. When you receive your instrument, you must wait until I raise my arms like this (Raise arms like a conductor). Then, follow me as we march around the room. Let's stay in line. When I put my arms down like this, what do you think that means? (Pause.) Yes! It means to stop playing. Okay, here we go!"

After the Activity: "Now that was a fun celebration parade! Why do you think the woman celebrated when she finally found her coin? (Pause.) Yes. She celebrated because it was so special to her. Are you special God? (Pause.) You are SO special to God, and He loves you very much. One more time, tell me, who loves you? [Bottom Line] God loves me."

<u>Prayer</u>

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

What You Need: Bookmark your Bible at Romans 8:39.

Parent:

"Today, we read a story about a woman who lost one of her coins. What did the woman do when she lost her coin? (Pause.) You're right! She looked and looked and looked until she found it. The coin must have been very special to her!

"Jesus told this story because He wants us to know that we are special to God. God loves us and wants us to always be with Him. And nothing, NOTHING, can ever separate us from God's love. Just like it says in the Bible verse we learned."

(Open your Bible to the Memory Verse.)

Parent: "Let's say it one time together, then anyone who wants to say it can give it a try!"

CHILDREN and Parent: "Nothing at all (shake head and wave your arms in front of you) can separate (lock your fingers together) us from God's (point up with both hands) love (hug yourself). Romans 8:39." (Open your hands like a book.)

Parent: "You sound awesome! Good job!"

Prayer

"Dear God, sometimes we forget how special we are to You. Thank You for reminding us that we are special. Thank You for (name of child)'s special (what they listed.) And for (name of child)'s special (what they listed.) (Repeat with each child.) I hope we never forget that You made us and love us, and that makes us all pretty special! We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."