

# DiscipleLand Festival

#12R

**Big Idea:** Review favorite stories and activities during a special festival.

**Bible Text:** (review previous Bible stories)

## Pray for Wisdom

Lord, thank You for the opportunity to teach about Your life here on earth and to show these children your great love. Help us to enjoy our time together as we review Your wonderful truth in these stories.

May Your Word light the way for every child to see and know You more each day. In Jesus' name, amen.



## Children will:

- Know** • Jesus urges people to hear and act on His words.
- Feel** • Excited about listening to what Jesus says.
- Do** • Practice following and obeying Jesus.

## Lesson Summary

The *DiscipleLand Festival* is a time to celebrate and review. You and your children will revisit the exciting Bible stories and spiritual concepts that you have enjoyed together during the entire unit.

Create a festive atmosphere for this special lesson. Streamers and other party decorations will greatly enhance the overall learning experience. You may want to invite parents to join all or part of the celebration.

### Option #1: Learning Center Format

Set up several *Learning Centers* for this event. Designate various areas of the classroom for different activities. You may want to rotate groups of children from one center to another or simply allow them to move freely through the classroom. You may even want to foster a carnival atmosphere with individual booths or stations. Be creative!

(See pages 80-81 for more information about *Learning Centers*.)

### Option #2: Normal Format

Instead of using *Learning Centers*, continue the regular lesson format for this session. If you choose this option, select one or more *Learning Center* ideas and treat them as *Learn by Doing* activities for the entire class.

## Supply Checklist

### Welcome & Worship Time:

- streamers and other decorations appropriate to a "festival"

### Bible Time:

- Bible teaching pictures #1-12
- snacks

### Disciple Time:

- Dee-Cy-Paul pictures #1-12
- puppets (optional)



## Greet Each Child

Welcome each child warmly.  
Encourage children to present their offerings as they arrive.

## Learn by Doing

Select a *Learning Center* activity that will help you introduce this lesson.

## Sing with Joy

Select favorite songs your children have enjoyed during this unit.

## Learn the Word

### Unit Memory Words:

Matthew 7:24

*"If you hear and obey Jesus, you are wise."*

### Lesson Memory Words

Luke 4:29.

*"The people were angry and made Jesus leave."*

Luke 5:5-6.

*"Peter obeyed Jesus and caught many fish."*

Mark 1:20.

*"The four friends followed Jesus."*

Luke 5:26.

*"Everyone was amazed and praised God."*

Luke 5:29.

*"Matthew invited his friends to a party for Jesus."*

John 5:15.

*"Jesus made the man well."*

Luke 6:13.

*"Jesus chose twelve special men."*

Matthew 5:16.

*"Do good and praise God!"*

Matthew 6:9.

*"Jesus told the people how to pray."*

Matthew 6:34.

*"Do not worry. God takes care of you."*

Matthew 7:12.

*"Treat other people the way you want them to treat you."*

Matthew 7:24.

*"If you hear and obey Jesus, you are wise."*

## Seek God's Blessing

Talk with God about your special time together.

As you pray, use meaningful and simple words from your heart. The children will learn to pray by listening to you.



## Review a Bible Story

Show the Bible teaching picture as you tell or read the **Summary/Review** of a favorite Bible story. Afterward, ask and answer questions about the story.

For older preschoolers, you may want to read two or more stories.

## Talk and Snack

While you eat, talk about the Bible story. Ask and answer questions from those listed previously.

## Wash Up

Allow time for your children to clean up and use the restroom.

## Play and Move

Give children an opportunity to stretch their arms and legs. For activity ideas, refer to the **Movement Center** on page 80.

## Learn by Doing

Select a *Learning Center* activity that will help you reinforce this lesson.



## Review Dee-Cy-Paul Story

Select either the narrative or the puppet script that corresponds to the Bible story you read in *Review a Bible Story* above. Afterward, ask and answer questions.

## Learn by Doing

Select a *Learning Center* activity that will help you reinforce this lesson.

## Pray for Life-Change

Thank God for Jesus. Pray that the children will listen for His call in each of their lives. Ask the LORD to be near them as they grow, and that His Spirit would be their source of life and love.

# Learning Centers

## What are Learning Centers?

Learning centers are special learning stations set up in a small space. At learning centers, children participate in a designated activity for a variable amount of time. Divide a large class into small groups and rotate each group from center to center, or take your entire class from center to center.

Choose learning centers that:

- meet the needs of your children
- fit your teaching style
- accomplish your educational objectives.

**Option:** If your classroom size limits the number of learning centers you can set up, create a rotating center in one corner of the room. Change the activity as often as needed.

## Why do Learning Centers work?

Learning centers energize learners and create the feeling that there are many things to do. Centers come in handy when children arrive early, when parents pick them up late, or when children finish a task more quickly than their peers.

### Bible Story Center

*Supplies:* Bible teaching pictures, flannelgraph figures, preschool picture Bibles, Dee-Cy-Paul teaching pictures, tape recording of Bible stories.

*Idea:* Encourage the children to retell or dramatize the Bible story using the pictures or flannelgraph.

*Idea:* Make an audio recording of your voice as you read each Bible story and Dee-Cy-Paul story. Your children will be delighted to hear you as they listen to the tape.

### Coloring Center

*Supplies:* crayons, markers, colored chalk, colored pencils, photocopies of Bible story coloring pages, blank white paper, finger paints (optional).

*Idea:* Photocopy the Bible story coloring pages (pages 84-95 in this *Teacher Guide*). Children will enjoy coloring the Bible picture for each lesson and creating their own drawings on the blank paper as well.

### Craft Center

*Supplies:* construction paper, glue, paint, scissors, pencils, crayons, markers, beads, stickers, yarn. Additional supplies vary for each lesson.

*Idea:* Create simple objects that remind children of each Bible story.

### Game Center

*Supplies:* puzzles, blocks, Legos®, clay, toys, dolls, play dough, matching and sorting games, and other manipulatives.

*Idea:* Mount one finished Bible story coloring page for each child onto poster board. Cut them into puzzle-shaped pieces. Place them in separate plastic bags. Present the puzzle to each child and challenge him or her to assemble it.

*Idea:* *Friendship Press* offers a book of international games for children, *A World of Children's Games*. Contact them at (800) 889-5733.

### Memory Verse Center

*Supplies:* verse pictographs, tape player and headphones.

*Idea:* Make a simple pictograph using pictures and words for each new memory verse. (See example on student activity page 31.)

*Idea:* Create a simple audiotape with each Bible memory verse.

### Movement Center

*Supplies:* balls, jump ropes, dress-up clothes.

Give children an opportunity to exercise their arms and legs and to develop gross motor skills.

*Outside or Gymnasium Activities:* playground time, relays, jump rope, tag, hopscotch, "Red Rover," "Hide and Seek," "Tug of War."

*Inside Activities:* musical chairs, drama/skits/pantomime, dress-up, "London Bridge," "Mulberry Bush," "Ring around the Rosy," "Duck, Duck Goose," "Hide and Seek," "Simon Peter Says" (variation of "Simon Says"), "Follow the Leader."

## Transportation Center

*Supplies: small cars, trucks, sheets, markers, or carpet with road pattern.*

*Idea:* Find a carpet that is designed to look like a road. If you cannot find this, you can create something similar from a white sheet using markers to draw a road, trees, grass, cities, and so on. Lay the carpet or sheet on the floor and allow the children to play with cars and trucks on it. You can also make a tabletop road scene from newsprint.

## Puppet Center

*Supplies: Dee, Cy, Paul, and Chip puppets, sock puppets, small disposable plastic glove puppets.*

*Idea:* Use the large puppets available from *DiscipleLand*. Call (800) 284-0158 or visit [www.DiscipleLand.com](http://www.DiscipleLand.com).

## Bible Time Costumes Center

*Supplies: used pillowcases, sweatbands, rectangles of cloth, pieces of cording, brown paper grocery bags.*

*Idea:* Use pillowcases and paper grocery bags to make Bible time costumes. Cut neck and arm holes big enough to easily fit over students' heads from the pillowcases or bags. You may also want to cut down the front of either. You can hem the cut edges of the pillowcases or use pinking shears when cutting. Uncut pillowcases or rectangles of cloth can be used as headpieces and held in place with the sweatbands. Have pieces of cording available for use as belts.

## Music Center

*Supplies: children's praise music, foreign language music, Bible story songs, tape or CD player, simple store-bought or handmade musical instruments, pictures of singing and worship.*

*Idea:* Encourage children to sing along with the songs and to play the instruments as they learn and worship.

## Map Center

*Supplies: globes of all sorts, large maps of the world, countries, or local state and city maps.*

*Idea:* Set up an area where your children can explore maps. There are many inexpensive globes and inflatable globe balls available. Although children at this age are not able to comprehend distances, they love to look at where they live and where things are happening, such as where the Bible stories are taking place. Maps can be pinned or taped to walls or tabletops so children can more easily see them.

## Prayer Center

*Supplies: pictures or symbols of Jesus, children praying, praying hands, international people.*

*Idea:* Communicate to the children that this center is for children to pray quietly.

## Around the World Center

*Supplies: pictures of people from various cultures, pictures or stuffed wild animals from around the world, clothing items from different cultures.*

*Idea:* Photographs from *National Geographic Magazine* or *Hidden People Profiles* provide vivid images to curious preschoolers. Collect scarves, hats, and other clothing items from different cultures. Encourage your children to dress up like the people they see in the pictures.

*Idea:* Children are attracted to different cultures through interest in world animals. Begin to associate animals with countries or regions.

## DiscipleLand Friends

Dee, Cy, and Paul live in the same neighborhood, and they attend the same school and church.

### Dee Morgan

- Social and hospitable
- Enjoys being outdoors and playing soccer
- Loves to daydream and sing
- An only child, adopted as a baby
- Parents are Christians

### Cy Yung

- Natural leader
- Objective and quick-witted
- Loves practical jokes and baseball
- Oldest of three children
- Diane is three years younger
- Becky is seven years younger
- Parents are not Christians

### Paul Shepherd

- Observant and practical
- Organized and a "go-getter"
- Loves computers and basketball
- Creative and plays the guitar
- Youngest of four children
- Dad is a pastor

### Chip (the dog)

- Belongs to Dee
- Yellow Labrador retriever
- Playful, inquisitive, and brave



These high-quality, full-body 28-inch puppets are priced affordably to help you motivate your children and are available from *DiscipleLand*. Call (800) 284-0158 or visit [www.DiscipleLand.com](http://www.DiscipleLand.com).

# About Preschoolers

## Your Children

By the time children complete their fifth year, approximately eighty-five percent of their basic personalities has been formed. Take time to learn about each child individually. Only by knowing your children can you really begin to meet their needs and contribute positively to their development during these formative years.

## Your Classroom

Provide a learning environment that will encourage your children to desire a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and to develop a love for His Word. This is best fostered in a structured and well-managed classroom.

Establish standards and classroom procedures to ensure that your children are always safe from physical harm or potential hazards. Communicate your policies and expectations to parents, and when appropriate, to your children.

## Younger Preschool Children (2- & 3-year-olds)

Younger preschool children learn by hearing, doing, repeating, and by imitating. Their motivation for learning is often simply to please parents or teachers. They are beginning to do things for themselves. They need help with sharing, playing together, and taking turns.

As a rule, preschool children maintain interest in an activity for only about one minute per year of age. Adjust the time you spend on each activity according to the ages and interests of your children. These little ones are always on the move and need to change activities often.

As you teach, use short sentences and simple words. Preschoolers think literally and concretely. Use concrete objects (e.g. toys, dolls, books) as often as possible. They focus on only one thing at a time and rarely understand figures of speech or abstract concepts.

Preschoolers depend heavily on their five senses (taste, touch, smell, sight, hearing) to experience and learn. Regularly engage their senses. Use vivid visuals, tasty treats, fragrant flowers, textures to touch, and special sounds.

Encourage younger preschoolers to be aware of others' needs, to discover who God is, what He has created, and how much He loves them. Smile and affirm preschoolers often!

### Two-Year-Olds can...

- color
- understand "before" and "after"
- sort shapes and colors
- sequence activities
- stack six or more blocks/objects
- assemble three- to four-piece puzzles
- turn pages
- identify common objects
- follow two- or three-step directions
- match shapes
- take turns
- ride a tricycle

### Three-Year-Olds can also...

- draw
- paint
- glue and paste
- count and identify some numbers
- use scissors
- draw circles and squares
- assemble simple puzzles
- identify "same" and "different"
- help clean up
- name some colors
- ask questions
- form and reform clay

## Older Preschool Children (4- & 5-year-olds)

Older preschool children learn by listening, planning, repeating and through trial and error. They eagerly seek adult approval, especially from their teacher. They love to help by holding the teaching picture at story time, by passing out supplies, and even by cleaning up after activities and crafts.

Preschool children enjoy a predictable sequence of activities. They benefit from the same routine from lesson to lesson. However, they like to move around from one interest to another during activity time, and they like to have choices. Learning centers work well with them. Music is also a powerful teaching tool for older preschool children.

Older preschoolers enjoy expressing themselves verbally. Interacting with friends is also becoming important to them. They love to talk and ask many questions. Give preschoolers your undivided attention when they talk with you. Get on their level as much as possible. Maintain eye contact with them. As with younger preschoolers, smile and affirm them often.

### Four-Year-Olds can also...

- assemble puzzles
- string beads
- use stamp pads
- create objects with play dough
- finger paint
- place stickers carefully
- create with sponge art
- use complete sentences
- take things apart and put them back together
- recite the alphabet
- tell stories or parts of stories
- trace or copy letters and numbers

### Five-Year-Olds can also...

- assemble complex puzzles
- write some numbers
- write some letters
- read a few simple words
- follow more complex directions
- retell stories in their own words
- dramatize stories
- interact socially
- share toys
- work in a group

## Your Expectations

God made every child in your class uniquely for His glory. Expect variety rather than conformity. The timeless challenge of every teacher is to discover how to bring out the best in every child. It is rarely easy, but very rewarding.

Your class undoubtedly has children who are more difficult to lead than others. Children who don't receive attention for good behavior will often use bad behavior to receive attention. Therefore, affirm your children regularly!

Extend firm and even-tempered discipline when needed. If you set simple rules and explain them beforehand, the children can easily understand them. When a child purposefully breaks a rule, address the situation with appropriate consequences; then redirect his or her attention back to the lesson.

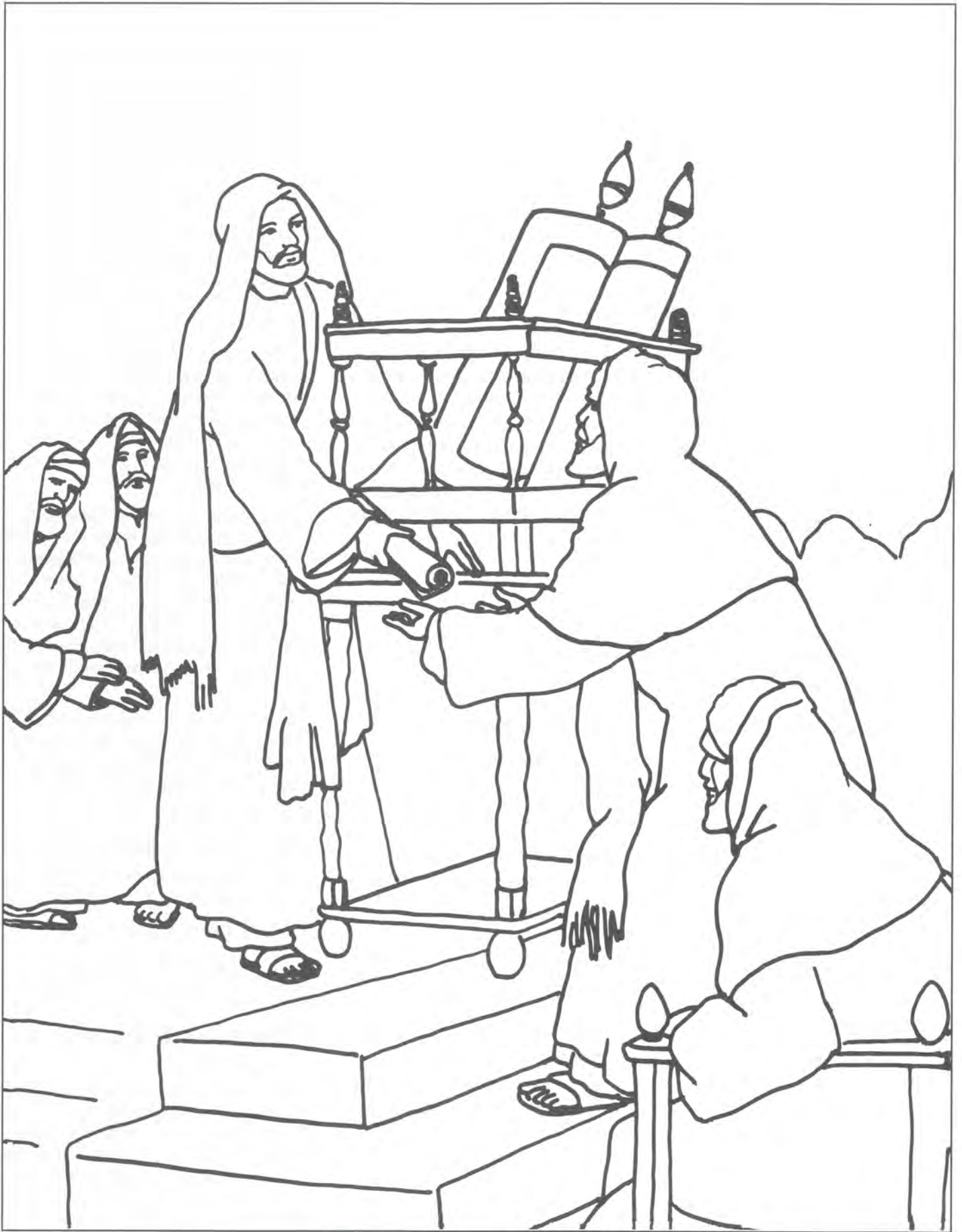
Be consistent and impartial. When discipline is necessary, be sure your children understand what they have done to misbehave. Always follow through with what you say.

### *Addressing Behavior Problems*

Try these three steps in the case of persistent discipline problems:

- 1) Ask that the behavior stop.
- 2) Seat the child beside a teacher, give the child a brief "time-out," or choose another consequence.
- 3) Involve the child's parents for additional support.

Carry out these steps with love and firmness. Always comfort and encourage children after they have been disciplined. Let them know that God's discipline is motivated by His love (Hebrews 12:5-11).



## Jesus Leaves Nazareth