## BIBLE WORDS

Birds and Flowers

MATTHEW 6:25-34

"The people were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NCV

## BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches you important things.

# BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

The toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos.

The toddler curriculum is designed to be used in conjunction with the monthly crawler curriculum. Feel free to use both in your classrooms.

## **STORY TIME:**

Draw It

# **CRAFT TIME:**

• Flower Stamped

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# **STORY TIME**

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Preschool Bible, butcher paper, and markers in a variety of colors

**LEADER:** "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible (hold up the Bible) is a story that Jesus (draw a stick man Jesus) taught His friends, the disciples. (Draw several stick men.) Jesus taught them that God takes care of the flowers. (Draw flowers.) And God takes care of the birds. (Draw a few simple birds.)

"Jesus told this story to teach us something very important. God loves us (draw a great big heart) more than flowers and birds. And since God takes care of flowers and birds, that means that God will take care of us too! Jesus teaches us that we don't have to worry. God will take care of us. I'm so glad Jesus teaches us important things. Jesus teaches you important things."

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# **CRAFT TIME**

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Flower Stamped" Activity Page, cardstock, craft tubes, smocks, washable paints in a variety of colors, paper plates, tablecloth, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

### WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Flower Stamped" on cardstock, one per child. Cut one-inch slits on one end of the tube, these can be wide or narrow. Push the cut pieces out so they are perpendicular to the tube. Make several different flowers by varying the width of the cuts and rounding the edges on some and keeping the squared edges on others. Pour paints on the paper plates. Cover the table.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Put a smock on each child. Encourage children to dip the cut end of the tube into the paint and then on their paper to create a flower. Change colors if desired. Clean hands and remove the smock.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's make pretty flowers with these tubes. Dip this part in the paint and then on your paper. Change colors if you want. (*Repeat as desired.*) Look at the beautiful and colorful flowers you painted!

"Today we learned Jesus taught His friends, the disciples, that God takes care of the flowers and God takes care of the birds. God loves us more than flowers and birds. And since God takes care of flowers and birds, that means that God will take care of us too! Jesus teaches us that we don't have to worry. God will take care of us. I'm so glad Jesus teaches us important things. Jesus teaches you important things."