



## BIBLE WORDS

Zacchaeus  
**LUKE 19:1-10**

"Be kind and loving  
to each other."

**EPHESIANS 4:32, NCV**

## BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

## 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.

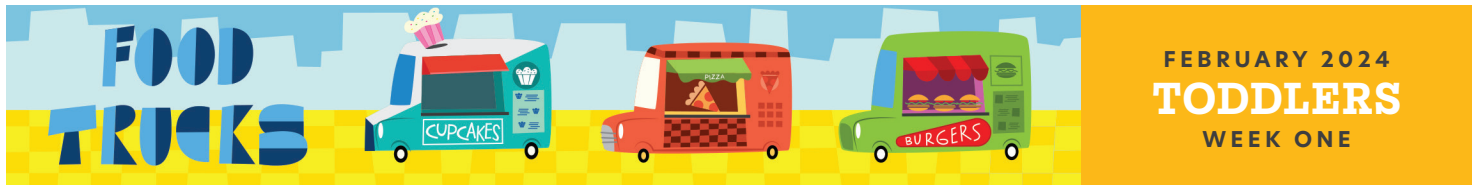
The toddler curriculum is designed to be used in conjunction with the monthly crawler curriculum. Feel free to use both in your classrooms.

## STORY TIME:

- Tell It

## CRAFT TIME:

- Zacchaeus in the Fingerprint Tree



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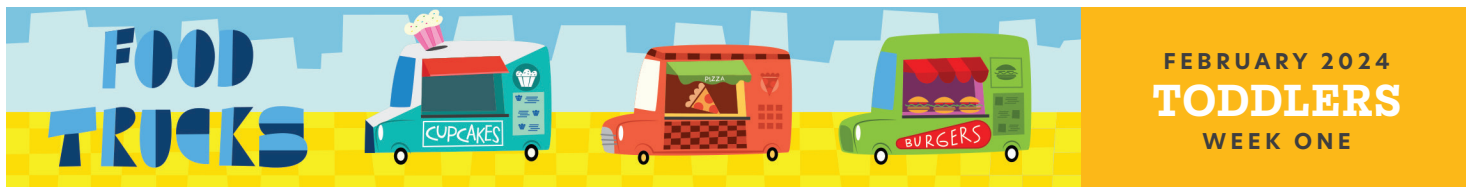
## STORY TIME

*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

**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*) begins with a man named Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus made some bad choices and took money that was not his. This made people angry.

"Jesus came to town and Zacchaeus went to see Him, but he was too short. So Zacchaeus climbed a tree and was able to see Jesus. And Jesus saw him! Jesus went to Zacchaeus' house, and they had a meal together! Jesus loved Zacchaeus and wanted to be his friend forever. Jesus was so kind and loving to Zacchaeus that it made Zacchaeus want to be kind and loving to other people. And guess what? Zacchaeus was so happy that Jesus loved him and was his friend, that he gave back to the people the money he had taken from them. Jesus loved Zacchaeus, and Jesus loves you too—no matter what! **Jesus loves everyone.**"



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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:** "Zacchaeus in the Fingerprint Tree" Activity Page, cardstock, green washable ink pads, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Zacchaeus in the Fingerprint Tree" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Help children press their finger in the ink and press it all over the treetop. Clean hands as needed.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Look! Jesus is standing next to the tree Zacchaeus is in! Let's add some leaves to the tree with your fingerprints. Press your fingertip on the ink pad, then press it on your paper. (Pause.) Keep going—fill the treetop! (Pause.) Great job! (Clean hands.) Jesus loved Zacchaeus, even when he made bad choices. And Jesus will love us too! **Jesus loves everyone.**"