



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:

- Show It

CRAFT TIME:

- Heart of Hearts
-



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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, and "Story Pictures" Activity Pages copied on cardstock

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. (*Hold up the picture of Zacchaeus.*) Zacchaeus made some bad choices and took money that was not his. (*Hold up the picture of Zacchaeus with lots of coins and angry people around.*) This made people angry.

"Jesus came to town, and Zacchaeus went to see Him. But Zacchaeus was too short, so he climbed a tree and was able to see Jesus. (*Hold up the picture of Zacchaeus in the tree and Jesus next to the tree.*) 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. (*Hold up the picture of Zacchaeus and Jesus in front of his house with hearts.*) 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. (*Hold up the picture of Zacchaeus with happy people around holding coins.*) Jesus loved Zacchaeus. And Jesus loves you too—no matter what! (*Hold up the picture of a heart.*) **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: "Heart of Hearts" Activity Page, cardstock, heart stamps, heart cookie cutters, craft tubes, red washable paint, paper plates, baby wipes, smocks, and a permanent marker; *Optional: washable ink pads in place of paint*

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Heart of Hearts" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Pour a small amount of paint on the paper plate. Bend one end of the craft tube into a heart shape.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Put smocks on each child. Encourage children to stamp hearts all over their paper using the different tools. Clean hands and set aside to dry.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Today we learned that Jesus loves everyone. Hearts make me think of love. Let's cover your paper with hearts. (*Help dip the tools in the paint.*) Press the different hearts on your paper to show lots of love! (*Clean hands.*) In our story, Jesus loved Zacchaeus even though he made bad choices. Jesus loves us if we make bad choices too. **Jesus loves everyone.**"