#### BIBLE STORY

Peter Says That Jesus is the Messiah Matthew 16:13-20

#### MEMORY VERSE

"Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith." Hebrews 12:2a, NIrV

#### **BOTTOM LINE**

You can TALK with others about what you believe.

#### TALK IT OUT . ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Verse Word Cards" ( Activity page), tape, and Bibles

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give Kids a Bible.
- Look up the memory verse, Hebrews 12:2a and read it together.
- Shuffle the "Verse word cards."
- Without showing kids the cards, tape a card to each kid's back.
- Instruct the group to stand in a line so the cards are in the right order.

  To get in the right order, allow kids to talk to one another.
- Once kids think they have the correct order, read the cards out loud.
- Allow the kids to change spots to make corrections if necessary.
- Remove the cards from the kid's backs.
- Shuffle the cards again and tape a card on each kid's back again.
- Challenge the group to repeat the activity. The catch is this time they cannot talk while figuring out the correct order.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"As you worked together to get the verse in the correct order, it helped a lot to be able to talk to each other. When we talk to each other about what we believe, it also helps us to know Jesus better. Our memory starts with: Let us keep looking to Jesus. (Hebrews12:2) In our Bible story today, when we take a closer look at Jesus, we see that Jesus encouraged Peter to share what he believed. So keep looking to Jesus and remember (Bottom line)you can TALK with others about what you believe.

#### **CD SUN CATCHER CRAFT (Preschool & Elementary)**

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Labels" activity page, CDs, fishing line pieces, peel and stick gemstones

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct your kids to peel and stick their stones in whatever pattern or design they like on the shiny side of the disc.
- Give kids a memory verse label to stick on the back of their disc.
- Say the memory verse together.

Help the kids thread a piece of fishing line through the middle of the disc and tie the ends together to make a loop for hanging.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"I want you to take your sun catcher home with you. Find a window with lots of sunlight where you can hang your sun catcher. When you look at the sun coming through your work of art, remember to keep looking toward Jesus and know you can tell others about him. (Bottom line)you can TALK with others about what you know.

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You can TALK with others about what you believe.

#### NOTEBOOK AND PRAYER

WHAT YOU NEED: Focus Notebooks (with 3D glasses) & markers

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a Focus Notebook .
- Show kids how to use the 3D glasses to focus on the pages in the book.
- Encourage kids to use the glasses and look on Page 10 to read the Bottom Line for today.
- Encourage kids to finish the sentence with a way they can hear from God.
- Ask kids to write on the top of Page 11,"I believe..."
- Encourage kids to finish the sentence with what they believe about Jesus.
- Prompt them by asking what adjectives would you use to describe Jesus or what stories they know about Jesus.
- Give kids the freedom to use words or drawings to finish the sentence.
- If time allows, challenge kids to write questions they might have about Jesus.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Maybe you have questions about what you believe or maybe, like Peter, you believe Jesus is your Messiah and you have asked Him to be your rescuer, and you know you are connected with God now and forever .It is important to remember as you learn more that ( Bottom line) You can TALK with others about what you believe. Let's pray.

"God, thank you so much for this story about Jesus. Jesus encouraged Peter to talk about what he believed, and you want us to talk about You,too. We know when we talk with others, we can get a closer look and discover who You are and all that Jesus did for us. We know, like Peter, we are not perfect. There are times we don't do what you want and we don't listen to You. We are so thankful You sent us Jesus to be our rescuer. And when we believe in Jesus, we can be with You now and forever! Thank you for loving us so much You want to be with us. Amen!"

#### CAN YOU DO IT? PRESCHOOL ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

#### WHAT YOU DO:

During the activity, gather the children and lead them to repeat their verse as they follow the movements you indicated below.

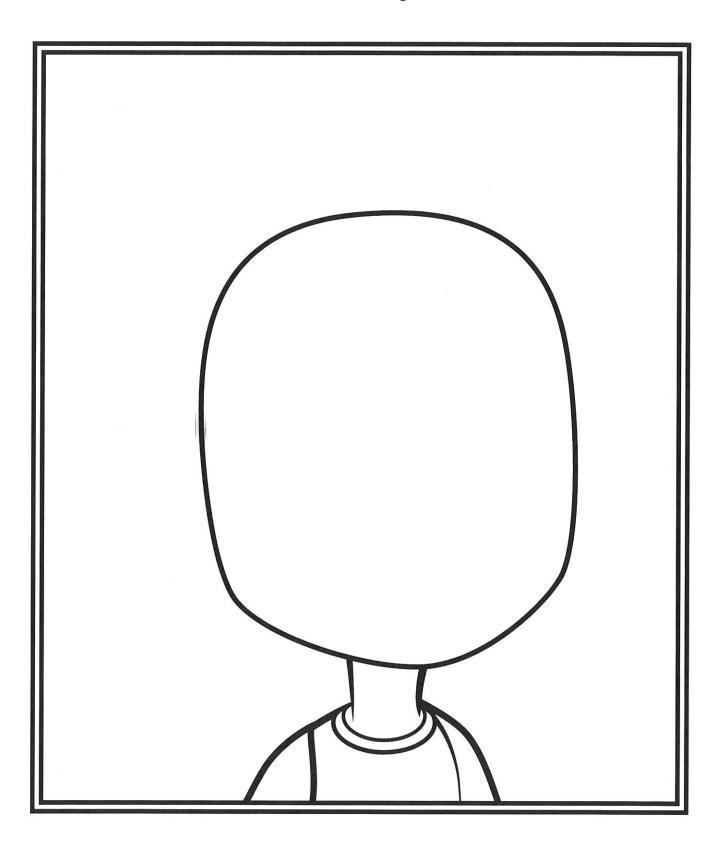
1. Jump, 2. Jumping Jacks, 3. Pat head, 4. Stomp, 5. Clap, 6. March

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Friends, come stand with me. We've been learning an awesome verse this week. It says, "Let us keep looking to Jesus."Hebrews 12:2. Now let's see if you can say the verse while you move in different ways. Can you say it while you jump? Let's try."( Repeat verse with movements.)

"Nice moves! We should keep looking to Jesus because Jesus is the best friend ever! Tell me: Who wants to be your friend forever? (Bottom line) Jesus wants to be my friend forever."

### Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



Finish the drawing to look like you.

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