

fall
FUN FEST
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SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

FALL FUN FEST CELEBRATION DAY!

PUMPKIN PATCH PARABLE

MATTHEW 5:14-16

KEY POINTS

Pumpkins are a part of God's Creation. • God created farmers to grow fruits and vegetables like pumpkins. • God made everything, pumpkins AND farmers!

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

How can we let the light of God's love shine? We let God's light shine through us by caring for others and telling them about Jesus.

MEMORY VERSE

The Lord is good, and His love lasts forever. Psalm 100:5

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

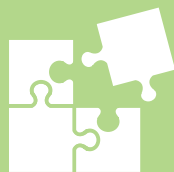
This week's lesson is about shining our light. From the book we're reading to children this week, *The Pumpkin Patch Parable*, we are reminded of how God takes something ordinary and makes it extraordinary: "All the neighbors knew that once again, the farmer had turned a simple pumpkin into a simply glorious sight. In the same way, God the Father offers His children the chance to be made new, full of light, shining like stars in a dark world."

That is exactly what God does with us. On our own, we are like that plain pumpkin: ordinary, and sometimes even broken or messy. When we place our lives in the hands of the Master, He cleans us out, fills us with His light, and makes us something beautiful for His glory. Just as the farmer's pumpkins glowed brightly for all to see, our lives are meant to shine with the love and goodness of Jesus.

Matthew 5:14-16 says: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Light was never meant to be hidden. Jesus tells us that our words, our actions, and our kindness can shine so brightly that people notice. But more importantly, when they see the light in us, they are seeing the reflection of Christ living through us. It is His light, not ours, that changes the darkness around us.

WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “Pop Goes the Weasel”:

The Lord,
the Lord,
the Lord is good,
and His love lasts forever.
Psalm 100:5

THE LORD’S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

Last year, we focused on learning the Lord’s Prayer. This year, our Threes and Fours classes are going to learn the Ten Commandments!

Toddlers & Twos: Use the provided poster to review the Lord’s Prayer with the children in your class.

Threes & Fours: Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

CRAFT



Help children with a craft connected to the Bible lesson.

CRAFT: PAPER PUMPKIN PATCH

Take the provided green butcher paper, along with the pumpkin cut-outs, and write each child's name on a pumpkin. Then, let them glue it onto the green butcher paper.

Tape the paper outside your door so parents can see your "pumpkin patch" at pick-up. As children leave, they will get to take home one (real!) mini pumpkin from the pumpkin patch on their way out.

Talk about Fall Fun Fest and encourage them to come back with friends and family. Encourage them to invite friends and neighbors to our church tonight for food, fun, and fellowship. Make sure you come too!



BIBLE TIME



Review the Bible lesson with your class.

LESSON (ALL AGES)

Read “The Pumpkin Patch Parable” and “The Pumpkin Gospel” to your class.

Read Matthew 5:14-16 from the provided Bible. Discuss what it means to let your light shine. Talk about the verse and the books you read.

Using the provided “lights,” sing “This Little Light of Mine”. The song and video can also be found on the flash drive in your room.

KEY POINTS

Pumpkins are a part of God’s Creation. • God created farmers to grow fruits and vegetables like pumpkins. • God made everything, pumpkins AND farmers!

SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. What does it mean to "let your light shine"?
4. How can we let the light of God's love shine? We let God's light shine through us by caring for others and telling them about Jesus.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!