**PreK Lesson Plan (4 and 5 year olds)**

A surfboard with a palm tree and text

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**Bottom Line** Do Respect!

**Respect -** **Showing others they are valuable in words and actions.**

**B Bible Story** Calling the Fisherman | Matthew 4:18-22

Calling Mathew | Mark 2:13-14

**Leader Note**

The words of Aretha’s Franklin’s classic song R-E-S-P-E-C-T should be stuck in your head on day 2 of VBC. If there is one thing our world could use more of it is respect! Whenever we talk about respect, we generally think of respecting those in authority. However, during day 2 of VBC we are going to take a slightly different angle to respect. Today’s theme will focus on the way we treat those that are different than us; those we might consider to be outsiders. In today’s Bible story we’ll see Jesus call the first disciples. These first disciples were not the most popular people in town, in fact they were looked down on but when Jesus invited them to follow him, he showed them respect by including them and making it well known that he considered these people valuable. Imagine today if our campers left looking for ways to include everyone and show the world what respect looks like.

**Friendship Circle**

**Supplies** – heart, respect poster

**What to say:** Hello everyone and welcome back to another day of Vacation Bible Camp. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am here with my other amazing leaders \_\_introduce other leaders\_\_. This week at Vacation Bible Camp we are on the Jesus tour where we are learning to “Do Unto Others” and show love to everyone we meet. While we wait at the bus stop for the bus to pick us up let’s get to know the friends who are on the Jesus Tour with us this week.

**What to do:**  *Hand the heart to a friend and have everyone say, hello \_\_Name of child\_\_. Have them hand the heart to another child and repeat until everyone has had a turn. Then ask a THIS or THAT question and have them answer the question when they pass the heart. Here are some questions to get you started.*

Live in a shoe OR a tree

Build a tower OR knock it down

Ride a kangaroo OR a frog

To have giant ears OR giant feet

To be super strong OR super fast

**What to say:** It looks like our bus is here! Yesterday we learned about kindness so today when I call your name you get to be kind and choose a friend to come with you to get on the bus.

**What to do:** *Have chairs set up in rows somewhere in the classroom to represent the bus. Tell the children that it is time to board the bus. Call the children by name one by one and each time let them choose a friend to get on the bus with them. Once all the children are on the bus introduce the word of the day – Respect. Also tell them the plan for the day and remind them of your classroom expectations (Kind hands, walking feet, listening ears.) End by singing the song “Wheels on the Bus.”*

*\*\*If you prefer, instead of the chairs you can have the children line up behind the bus driver and have them follow the bus driver around the room.*

**What to say:** Welcome aboard the Do Unto Others (DUO) Bus. We are getting ready to head out on the Jesus Tour where we will learn from Jesus how to love others. Today we are on an adventure to learn more about the word **Respect** *(hold up Respect poster).* **Respect** means “showing others they are valuable in words and actions.” We show **respect** when we say please or thank you and when we greet someone with a smile. Show me how you feel when someone treats you with **respect**.  *(smile)* That’s right it makes us feel happy! I cannot wait to learn more.

Another thing that makes me happy is singing songs. Let’s sing a fun song while we are on the bus.

**What to sing:** The Wheels on the bus go round and round *(move your hands around in a circle)* Round and round. Round and round. The wheels on the bus go round and round. All through the town.

* The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish *(move arms back and forth)*
* The horn on the bus goes beep, beep, beep *(press imaginary horn)*
* The kids on the bus say, “Jesus loves you!” *(say Jesus loves you! As you wave)*

**Praise & Worship Time**

**What to do***: Line the kids up at the door and move to worship space. Be sure to talk about the expectations as you walk through the hallways and participate in worship.*

**What to say:**Here’s our first stop on our bus tour today. It’s time to go to praise and worship time. When I tap you on the shoulder you can go ahead and line up at the door.

**Exploring the Bible Story**

**Supplies** –The Beginner’s Bible

**What to do***: Have the children get back on the “bus”. Pretend to start driving the bus and talk about your next stop – the beach.*

**What to say:**Everyone take a seat, it’s time to continue on our Jesus tour. Our next stop will be at the beach where Jesus is trying to find some friends to help him. Raise your hand if you have been to the beach before*. (raise hand)* What does the beach look like? *(discuss)* Today on our adventure we will hear about a time when Jesus wanted to find some people to be his friends and he made sure to include everyone; even the fishermen and tax collectors. Everyone be on the lookout for the beach.

**What to do***: Say the “Do Unto Others” (DUO) Chant with the kids. And then stop the bus and have the children join you on the floor to read the Bible story of the day.*

**What to say:**It’s Time for our “Do Unto Others” (DUO) Chant. Are you ready?

Leader says: I say Do, You say **Respect**

Leader says: Do

Kid’s say: **Respect**

Leader says: Do

Kid’s say: **Respect**

*Repeat with the word* Kindness

*Everyone says this together getting louder each time*

Love everyone, love everyone, love everyone! (*Make a heart with your hands)*

Everyone look out the window. I see some water so the beach must be nearby. Here we are at our next stop – the beach where we will see what Jesus can teach us today. Put those hands up in the air. When I give you a high five you can get off the bus. Please remember to **Respect** your friends by using your walking feet and kind hands and join me around the water.

**What to read:** Jesus Chooses His Disciples – pages 308-313 in The Beginner’s Bible

**What to say:**Jesus showed **Respect** by asking and including everyone to be his friend. **Respect** is showing others they are valuable in words and actions. And that is exactly what Jesus did by inviting the fishermen to be his friends and then the tax collectors that no one liked to be his friend. Jesus wants us to remember to treat everyone with respect because everyone deserved to be loved.

We show respect when we say kind words like thank you. What are some other kind words you could say? *(please, excuse me, I’m sorry, I love you, etc.)*

We show respect with our actions too. Like when we meet someone and shake their hand. What are some other respectful actions you could do?  *(hold the door open, let someone else go first, give a high five, waiting patiently to take turns)*

Just like Jesus showed **respect** to the least and unlikely, he wants us to **show respect** to everyone we meet. If you can show **respect to others** stand up with your pets.

If you can show **respect**—wave to our pet friends.

If you can show **respect**—clap 5 times.

If you can show **respect** —say, “please jump” and toss your pet in the air and catch them.

If you can show **respect** —give your pet a hug.

Continue with other actions.

Great job showing **respect**. Now let’s thank Jesus for teaching us all about how to love others.

***What to pray:*** *Ask if anyone wants to pray and if not lead them in this echo prayer,*

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for teaching me,

To love everyone.

And DO RESPECT.

I love you! Amen.

**Small Group Explorations (Bus stops)**

**#1- Pet Collar**

**Supplies —** 8-10” chenille stems (2 per child), pony beads, letter beads *(optional)*

**What to say:** We DO **Respect** when we call people by their names. Each one of you has a special name. When I point to you, say your name. *(Say, “Jesus loves \_point to each child\_”).* Let’s make a special collar for our pet and a bracelet for you to wear.

**What to do:** *Give each child a chenille stem and set the pony beads out on the tables. Have the children make a special collar for their new pet by threading the beads onto the chenille stem. When they are done help them fit the collar around their pet’s neck and twist the ends together. They can also make a bracelet for themselves too. There will be letter beads too if they want to put their pet’s name on their collar.*

**What to talk about:***What is your pet’s name? Do you have any pets at home? What are their names? What do you do to take care of your pets?*

**#2 – Respect Relay**

**Supplies —** pets (optional)

**What to say:** It’s time for you and your pet to practice being **respectful**. We do **respect** when we show others they are valuable in words and actions like when we say please or thank you or when we shake someone’s hand. Let’s see how well you and your pet can show **respect.**

**What to do:** *Have the children join you on the bus seats or on the floor. Call out one of the ways to show respect listed below. Call out two children’s names and have them come up to the front of the bus/room and perform the respectful action that you call out (see examples below). Continue calling out respectful actions until every child has had at least one turn. You can play this game with or without their pets.*

**RESPECT ACTIONS**

* Shake hands
* Say, “thank you”
* Smile and say, “glad you are here today”
* Say, “please”
* Give a high five
* Raise your hand and when called on say your favorite food.
* Give a compliment
* Say, “I’m sorry”

**#3 – Thankful Tower**

**Supplies —** blocks or Legos in the room (2-3 per child)

**What to say:** Another way that we Do **Respect** is by being thankful and taking turns. We will get to do both of these in this next activity.

***What to do:*** *Sit in a circle and give each child 2-3 blocks. Go around the circle and have the children take turns adding a block to the tower in the middle of the circle as they say, “Thank you for \_\_\_\_\_\_”. Continue around the circle 2-3 times until all of the block have been added. Then lead them in an echo prayer.*

**Take Home Challenge**

**Supplies —** challenge cards and daily sticker

**What to do:** *Have the children gather on the floor and bring the challenge cards and daily stickers with you. Talk about the day and then challenge the kids, to complete the challenge at home.*

**What to ask:** What was your favorite part about camp today? What did you learn today?

**What to say:** Great job friends! Yesterday our challenge was to do helper job without being asked. What helper job did you do? *(discuss)*

Today we went to the beach to learn that Jesus wants us to show others that they are valuable in words and actions and DO RESPECT. Now it’s time to continue the fun at home. Today’s challenge is to choose someone at home and play THEIR favorite game. Of course, you should be respectful in taking turns and be encouraging to the other player.

**What to ask:** Who could you play a game with? What game could you play?

**What to say:** Raise your hand if you accept the RESPECT challenge. I cannot wait to hear about it tomorrow when we continue to learn about how to treat others on the Jesus Tour!

**What to do** *Send the challenge card and the daily sticker home with each child.*

**Closing Activity**

**Catching Kindness Game**

**Supplies —** Catching Kindness board game, game pieces (in game box), crayons/markers

**What to say:** What a fun day at Bible Camp learning about how to Do KINDNESS. Let’s play a fun game and practice spreading kindness.

***What to do:***

* + Divide kids up into groups of 3-6 players with one leader.
  + Give each group a Catching Kindness board game.
  + Give each kid a game piece and let them decorate them with markers. Be sure to write their name or initials on the bottom of their game piece.
  + Have each player place their game piece at the start.
  + Take turns letting each child roll the dice and move ahead that many spaces.
  + If they land on a heart space, draw a card, and read what it says.
  + Continue taking turns until everyone playing gets to the heart of kindness.
  + Once everyone reaches the end open the box of kindness and read the card inside.
  + Return game pieces and cards to the game box.