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

A logo with text and trees

Description automatically generated

**Bottom Line** Do Compassion!

**Compassion -** **Caring about others and helping people in need.**

**Bible Story** Feeding 5000 people | Matthew 14:13-21

**Leader Note**

Matthew 14:14 is a powerful verse! It tells us that Jesus saw the crowds and had compassion. The following verses then shows us compassion in action. Matthew tells us that Jesus healed the sick and then fed over 5,000 people. Compassion is not only a feeling; compassion is a feeling combined with action. Jesus provides an incredible example of compassion, and it is this example that we want to teach our campers today. What does it look like for us to move from a place of feeling to a place of action. Nearly the entire population can feel bad about a situation, but the real challenge is taking that feeling and doing something to make the situation better. That is what Jesus is calling us to do. Take action, make a difference, people will know we are followers of Jesus by the love we show, not the feelings we have. God bless your day with your campers as we all strive to be people of compassion!

**Friendship Circle**

**Supplies** – heart, compassion poster

**What to say:** Hello everyone and welcome back to another day of Camp. This week we are on the Jesus tour where we are learning to “Do Unto Others” and show love to everyone we meet. While we are at the bus stop waiting for the bus to pick us up let’s get to know our friends.

**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.*

Eat pizza all day OR eat ice cream all day

Share a room OR live alone

Be as tiny as a fly OR a big as an elephant

To have giant ears OR giant feet

To have a million dollars OR a million friends

**What to say:** It looks like our bus is here! Yesterday we learned about respect so remember to wait patiently for your turn. If you are wearing red, you can board the bus. If you are wearing blue shoes, you can line up. If you have a sister, you can line up. If you have a cat, you can line up. *(continue calling out things until everyone has boarded 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. Once all the children are on the bus introduce the word of the day – Compassion. You can 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 where we will learn from Jesus how to love others. Today on the Jesus Tour we will learn more about the word **Compassion** *(hold up Compassion poster).* **Compassion** means “caring about others and helping people in need.” We show **compassion** when we make a card for someone who is sick or donate food to a food pantry, What are some other ways that you can show **compassion**? *(discuss)* Show me how you feel when someone treats you with compassion.*(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 riding 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 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.

**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.*

**Exploring the Bible Story**

**Supplies** –The Rhyme Bible Storybook

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

**What to say:**Everyone take a seat, it’s time to continue our Jesus tour. Our next stop will be in the wilderness where Jesus is talking to thousands of people. What do you think the wilderness looks like? *(discuss)* Today on our Jesus tour we will hear about a time when Jesus and his friends were trying to figure out how to show **Compassion** and feed over 5000 people. Everyone be on the lookout for the wilderness.

**What to do***: Perform 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” Chant. Are you ready?

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

Leader says: Do

Kid’s say: **Compassion**

Leader says: Do

Kid’s say: **Compassion**

*Repeat with the words* Respect andKindness

*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 think we are in the wilderness and our next stop. I cannot wait to see what we will learn from Jesus today. Put those hands ups 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 in the wilderness.

**What to read:** Feed lots of People – pages 244-255 in The Rhyme Bible Storybook

**What to say:**Jesus saw the crowd of people and knew they were hungry, and he showed them **compassion** and cared for them. **Compassion** is caring about others and helping people in need.

Jesus saw the need and with the help of a little boy who shared his lunch was able to do an amazing thing that helped all of the people. Jesus wants us to be on the lookout for people who might need some extra compassion too.

We show compassion when we help those in need. Who is someone you know that is sick? *(discuss)*

What is something that you can do to show compassion to someone who is sick? *(discuss)*

Just like Jesus showed **compassion** to the hungry crowd and fed them. He wants us to show **compassion** to those who need help. If you can show **compassion** let’s stand up with our pets.

If you can show **compassion**—rock your pet.

If you can show **compassion**—jump up high.

If you can show **compassion** —pet your pet.

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

Great job showing **compassion**. 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 COMPASSION.

Help me be on the lookout,

For people who need help.

I love you! Amen.

**Small Group Explorations (Bus stops)**

**#1 – Pet Food Bowl**

**Supplies —** small plastic bowl, stickers

**What to say:** In today’s Bible story Jesus fed some people because they were hungry. Let’s show **compassion** to our pets and make them a food bowl to eat out of.

**What to do:** *Give each child a plastic bowl and set the stickers out on the tables. Have the children decorate a food bowl with stickers. When they are done put their bowl in their pet home and pretend to feed their pet.*

**What to talk about:***Do you have a pet? What do you feed your pet? What are some of your favorite things to eat? How can you show* ***compassion*** *to someone who is hungry? Sick?*

**#2 – Feed the Animals**

**Supplies — \***pool noodle pieces (different colors), buckets/bowls same colors as pool noodle pieces

\*you could use paper or foam hearts instead of pool noodle pieces

**What to do:** *Have the children find a seat on the bus or gather on the floor. Call each child one at a time by saying, \_name of child\_ Do Compassion! That is their signal to go and pick up a piece of “food” (pool noodle piece) and put it in the bowl that is the matching color. They should then return to their seat and another child’s name is called out. Continue to call children by name until all the “food” is in the bowls. Feel free to call out more than one child at a time.*

**What to say:** We can do amazing things when we work together and show compassion. I think our pets are getting hungry. Let’s show **compassion** and feed them. *(explain game)*

**#3 – Compassion Toss**

**Supplies —** pool noodle pieces or foam hearts, parachute or fabric piece

**What to do:** *Have the children gather around the parachute or fabric. Give each child a pool noodle piece or foam heart. One at a time have them toss their piece onto the parachute as they say the name of someone that needs help. Once everyone has a turn have everyone grab ahold of the parachute and move in a circle as you say the “Do Unto Others” (DUO) Chant. When you say love everyone stop and move the parachute up and down making the pieces pop up in the air. Repeat as long as there is interest.*

**What to say:** Compassion means caring about others and helping people in need. Who are some people that you know that need help? *(discuss)*

**#4 – Taking Care of Your Pet**

**Supplies** — pets, pretend vet, food and first aid supplies for pets

**What to say:** What was our Bible story about today? *(discuss)* That’s right, Jesus showed **compassion** by helping the hungry crowd. And you know what? He wants us to help him spread **compassion** by caring for those in need! Today we are going to show **compassion** to our pets by taking care of them.

***What to do:*** *Show the kids the different stations set up around the room to take care of their pet.*

*-* ***Vet*** *where their pet can get a check up*

*-* ***Bandage station*** *where they can put a bandage on the pet’s ouchie*

*-* ***Food Station*** *where they can pretend to feed their pets*

**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 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:** It has been such a fun day on the Jesus tour today! Yesterday our challenge was to do play a game with someone in your home? How did it go? *(discuss)*

Today we went to the wilderness to learn that Jesus wants us to care about others and DO COMPASSION and help people in need. Now it’s time to continue the fun at home. Today’s challenge is to think of someone who needs cheering up and do something kind for them.

Who can you help? What is a kind thing can you do for them?

Raise your hand if you accept the COMPASSION challenge. I cannot wait to hear about who you cheered up 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.