**2 and 3 Year Old Lesson Plan**

A surfboard with a palm tree and text

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**Bottom Line** Do Respect!

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

Calling Mathew | Mark 2:13-14

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

**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**

**What to do:** *Gather the kids on the floor in a circle.* Welcome the *kids to camp and then**sing the following welcome chant. Have each child stand up when you say their name. Once every child has had a turn say the “Do Unto Others” chant.*

**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. Let’s get started with our Friendship Song. I am going to sing a song and when you hear your name, I want you to stand up. Here we go!

**I know a girl/boy whose name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Stand up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Say “Hi” to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Because Jesus loves you!**

Today on the Jesus Bus Tour we will be learning that we should treat each other with love and **respect**. I cannot wait to learn how we can do this.But first, let’s day the “Do Unto Others” chant.

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

Leader says: Do

Kids say: **Respect**

Leader says: Do

Kids say: **Respect**

*Repeat saying the word Kindness*

*End with everyone saying this together getting louder each time* Love everyone, love everyone, love everyone! (*Make a heart with your hands)*

**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 Beginners Bible, stuffed animals, box buses (if you are using them)

**What to do***: Have the children sit inside their pretend “bus” with their stuffed animals. Pretend to start driving and talk about your next stop – the beach. While you drive to the beach, sing the Wheels on the Bus song. Finish by reading the Bible story.*

**What to say:**Everyone take a seat, it’s time to continue our “Do Unto Others” bus tour. Our next stop will be at the beach where Jesus is looking for some friends to help him love others.

**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)*

**What to say:**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 Jesus is looking for some friends. Let’s see what we can learn from Jesus today.

**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.

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 —**paper strips, crayons, clear tape, sharpie (for leader)

**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 paper strip and set the crayons out on the tables. Ask each child the name of their pet and write the name on the paper strip with the sharpie. Let the children decorate by coloring it and then help them put the collar on their pets attaching the ends with tape. They can also decorate a second strip of paper to wear as a bracelet.*

**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 and Respond**

**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 that 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 with their pet in their box bus or on the floor. Call out one of the ways to show respect listed below and have the children act it out with their pets. You can play this game with or without their pets.*

**RESPECT ACTIONS**

* Shake hands
* Say, “thank you”
* Give a high five
* Smile and say, “glad you are here today”
* Say, “please”
* 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. Continue around the circle 2-3 times until all of the block have been added. Then lead them in a thankful echo prayer.*

*\*If you have a large class you could divide into small groups with one leader with each group.*

**#4 - Roll the Ball**

**Supplies** — Ball

**What to say:** Jesus loves each and every one of you. He loves name of each child. Let’s roll the ball to all our friends.

**What to do:** *Roll the ball to a child and say,* **Jesus loves name of child** *then have them roll the ball back to you. Roll the ball to a different child and say* **Jesus loves name of child.** *Continue letting each child have a turn. Then switch over to saying,* ***\_name of child\_ will show respect****. As you roll the ball from child to child.*

**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 say:** 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.

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.*