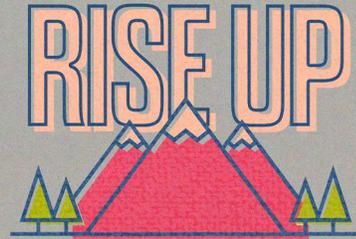




WEEK 2

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE



THE BIG IDEA

Jesus connects us to each other.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Appears to the Disciples: John 20:19-31

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC** | Summit Songs
- ACTIVITY** | Connect the Chains
- ACTIVITY** | Summit Stack

TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE** | John 20:19-31
- THE BIG IDEA** | Jesus connects us to each other.
- VIDEO** | Rise Up, Episode 2
- ACTIVITY** | Locked Up
- PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

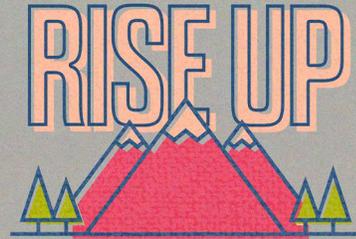
- SNACK** | Climbing Rope
- ACTIVITY** | Connect Four
- ACTIVITY** | Followers' Chain
- MEMORY VERSE** | Romans 10:9 (NIV)

PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- ACTIVITY** | Mountain Climbers
- ACTIVITY** | Mountain Bookmark



WEEK 2 HACKS FOR TODDLERS



BY DARBY GEORGE

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Connect the Chains

Walk around the room once holding the hand of one toddler. On the second lap, have the toddler hold the hand of another toddler. Continue until everyone has joined the chain.

THE BIG IDEA | Jesus connects us to each other.

Like last week, punch a few holes in the top of the mountain and thread the rope through. After the kids attach the Big Idea sheet for the week onto the front carabiner, give each kid an opportunity to pull on the back side of the rope to bring the Big Idea to the top of the mountain!

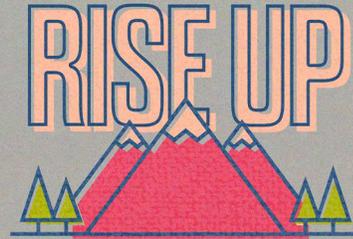
ACTIVITY | Mountain Bookmark

Provide construction paper, crayons, stickers, markers, etc. and allow kids to decorate freely. Pre-cut triangles and let kids glue "mountains" on their paper.



WEEK 2

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

Jesus connects us to each other.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Appears to the Disciples: John 20:19-31

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Summit Songs

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Invite kids to sing and dance along to fun worship songs to celebrate Jesus, such as, "[Jump Around](#)."

ACTIVITY | Connect the Chains

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split kids up into groups of five or six, and assign an adult leader to each group. Everyone has to hold hands the entire time while they follow their leader and fast-walk to try to tag the last person of other chains. If successful, the tagged team joins by holding hands with the last person in the chain that tagged them.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Walk around the room once holding the hand of one toddler. On the second lap, have the toddler hold the hand of another toddler. Continue until everyone has joined the chain.
- Good job staying connected to each other!

ACTIVITY | Summit Stack

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Divide the kids into two to four teams, depending on the size of your group. Create a starting line using painter's tape on the ground, where the teams can line up behind. At the other end of the room, place a long table opposite the lines. Give everyone a plastic cup. When you say, "Go," the teams run one at a time to begin making a cup "mountain," by simply re-stacking the cups upside down one on top of the other. Once one person places a cup, they must run back and tag the next person's hand. The team that stacks all their cups first wins!

- This game helped us see how the whole team must work together to make the cup mountain! Our Bible story today shows us how hearing the good news about Jesus brought people together, too!

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | John 20:19-31

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Retell the story using adult volunteers to play the roles. You will need people to play the parts of Jesus, Thomas, and four additional disciples. Set up your stage like a living room with pillows for everyone to sit on. You could even project an image of a night sky with stars and play cricket sounds to show this took place in the evening.
- (Disciples are pacing back in forth.)
- **Disciple 1:** Hey, be very quiet! We don't want anyone hearing us.
- **Disciple 2:** Did you hear something? What was that?
- **Jesus:** (Jesus appears in the center.) My friends! Peace be with you!
- **Disciples 1 and 2:** Ahh! (One of the disciples whimpers and curls up in the fetal position on the floor.)
- **Jesus:** (Jesus holds out hands.) Hey, hey. Don't be afraid. It's me, Jesus. See?
- (Disciples get excited when they see that it is Jesus and begin to touch Jesus' hands.)
- **Disciple 3:** It's really hard to believe, but it really is Jesus!
- **Jesus:** Just like God sent me, I'm going to send you! (Jesus begins to pray over the disciples to receive the Holy Spirit. Then, Jesus leaves.)
- **Disciple 4:** Guys, did that just happen? Did we really just see Jesus and touch Jesus' hands and side? We gotta tell everyone that Jesus is alive!
- **Thomas:** (Enters the room.) Hey, guys!
- **Disciple 4:** Thomas! You won't believe what happened! We have seen Jesus!
- **Thomas:** (Laughs out loud in disbelief.) Yeah, right! I won't believe it until I see proof for myself!
- (Show a slide or have someone say, "Eight Days Later . . .")
- **Jesus:** Thomas.
- **Thomas:** Whoa! Who is that?
- **Disciple 4:** (Smirks.) I hate to say I told you so, but I told you so!
- **Thomas:** Jesus? What? You're alive? But that's not possible!
- **Jesus:** Thomas, with God, all things are possible. You don't have to be afraid. You can touch the places where my wounds were and believe.
- **Thomas:** My Lord! My God! (Begins to cry.)
- **Jesus:** Thomas, now that you have seen the proof, you believe. There will be many who don't get the chance to see me and touch these wounds. They are blessed for believing even though they haven't been able to see me.
- (Characters walk off stage. Encourage kids to give actors a hearty round of applause!)
- When Jesus showed up, his friends were no longer afraid. They really believed that Jesus was the same Jesus they had followed until now. Jesus who died was now Jesus who lives! They were brought together to see Jesus so they could tell others the good news!

THE BIG IDEA | Jesus connects us to each other.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the cardboard mountain from last week. Add this week's printed Big Idea to the mountain by attaching it to the rope or carabiner.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Like last week, punch a few holes in the top of the mountain and thread the rope through. After the kids attach the Big Idea sheet for the week onto the front carabiner, give each kid an opportunity to pull on the back side of the rope to bring the Big Idea to the top of the mountain!
- Let's say today's Big Idea together: Jesus connects us to each other.

VIDEO | Rise Up, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's preschool [teaching video](#).

ACTIVITY | Locked Up

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Bring in a [combination lock](#). Be sure to practice the combination beforehand to ensure you can unlock the lock. Put [eleven toy figures](#) inside of a backpack. Place the lock on the zipper pulls on the backpack, so that the bag won't open. Pass the bag around to the kids and give each of them a chance to attempt to open it. After all the kids have attempted, put in the combination, open the bag and show them what's inside.
- **How many people figures are inside this backpack?**
- Jesus's eleven friends were hiding in a locked room. **Did Jesus need a combination or a key to get inside?**
- **How did Jesus go inside the room?**

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus so that we can be connected to you. Thank you for all the people in our lives we are connected to. Help us to love them like you do. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Climbing Rope

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a [Twizzlers Pull 'n' Peel](#) and instruct them to pull each strip apart. Then, show them how to tie the individual strips together to create a long climbing rope!
- When we're connected together, we are stronger because there are more of us. When we connect these pieces, our rope is longer and can help us climb higher!
- **Would you rather climb a mountain or swim in the ocean?**
- **How high have you climbed before?**

ACTIVITY | Connect Four

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a copy of the Connect Four printable stamp with different colors or designs like [these](#). Have kids go around and stamp each other's paper until everyone has collected at least four stamps from four different people.

- **Why didn't Thomas believe that Jesus was alive?**
- **What did Thomas say he needed to do before he would believe Jesus was alive again?**
- **What did Jesus do when he saw Thomas?**

ACTIVITY | Followers' Chain

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Cut enough two- to three-inch wide strips of paper for each kid and leader. Tell each kid to write "Jesus" on one side of their paper and their name on the other side. Glue or staple each strip of paper together to make a chain. Fold the paper so "Jesus" is facing out. Make one, long chain with every kid and leader's name attached.*
- **What do you see when you look at the chain?**
- I see Jesus on each link! Jesus is how each of us are connected!
- Let's hang this up to remind us each week that **Jesus connects us to each other.**

MEMORY VERSE | Romans 10:9 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, place a sheet with the memory verse printed on it at the end of the hallway or somewhere outside of the classroom. Grab a [walking rope](#) and instruct each kid to hold onto a handle. Lead them on a quest for the memory verse all throughout the hallways and classroom. Once you discover the memory verse, lead the kids back to the classroom saying the memory verse as loudly as you can!*

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Provide this week's coloring page and some crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story and Big Idea as the kids color.*

ACTIVITY | Mountain Climbers

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Cue some fun music and lead the kids in doing mountain climbers like [this](#).*

ACTIVITY | Mountain Bookmark

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a piece of origami paper and help them make a corner bookmark (You can follow [these](#) instructions). Have them decorate the triangle to look like a mountain using markers or colored pencils. Help them write out the Big Idea below the mountain.*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Provide construction paper, crayons, stickers, markers, etc. and allow kids to decorate freely. Pre-cut triangles and let kids glue "mountains" on their paper.*

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.