



SUMMER STORIES OF JESUS Toddler: Jesus and Zaccheus

Date: Sunday July 19, 2026 **Teachers:** Laura N (lead) Jess S, Brendan E

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matt.14:13-21

Props: *bring from home: none

at centre: pic of Jesus

Invite kids to sit in a circle, you can start with a snack.

Rules: Let's listen with our ears. We are going to sit in a circle before we play.

BIBLE STORY: "The Man in the Tree" materials: (God's Big Story book Bible p. 190)

In the Bible, we read stories about amazing things that Jesus does, and it shows us what God is like because Jesus is God the son. In this picture Jesus is calling a man named Zaccheus. Zaccheus wasn't a nice man and when he meets Jesus, Jesus' love for him changes him forever.

SING A SONG:

Sing to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat":

"Jesus is, Jesus is, Jesus is God's Son! He has power o'er everything; Jesus is God's Son!"

Jesus did miracles. Jesus showed people His power. Jesus is powerful because He is God's Son.

ACTIVITY: "Come Down"

Jesus told Zaccheus to come down, he wanted to be with us. God is seeking us too, He is calling us into His family. When I call your name can you come running and give me a high 5

ACTIVITY: "Find Zaccheus" (materials: picture with Zaccheus in the tree/volunteer finds him)

Did you find Zacchaeus? Zacchaeus was in today's Bible story, people did not like him. Zacchaeus was dishonest and greedy. After Zacchaeus met Jesus, His encounter with Jesus changed him forever. He came face to face with Jesus and it changed Zaccheus, he went from taking people's money to giving it away. He went from saying MINE to saying YOURS! Because God loves us and has given us what we need, we can say YOURS to others, not MINE.

ACTIVITY: "can you share" materials: (cookies from class)

Let's see how this goes with 2 year olds. Give a child a cookie and ask them to share it with a friend. Then give everyone a cookie. Jesus changes our hearts, he shows us that he is generous and gives to us, so we can give to others.

DISMISS FOR PLAY/play music from your phone on the bluetooth speaker (*link in the weekly email to kids praise)