

Measure Up (Pre-K)

Week 4

BIG IDEA

God makes us ready at the right time.

BIBLE

Jesus Begins His Ministry: Matthew 4:12–23

WELCOME TIME

PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with toys and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins. This is a great opportunity to get to know kids and build relationships.*
 - *Get on the floor and be silly*
 - *Play along with what they're playing*
 - *Ask get-to-know-you questions*
 - *Learn names and use them as you interact*

MUSIC | Worship Playlist

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *During free time, use one of our spotify playlists to play some background music.*

CLEAN UP

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before moving onto the lesson content, play the "Clean Up" song and work together as a class to put all toys and activities away.*
 - *Place all toys in labelled tubs.*
 - *Place all tubs away in labelled cabinets*

INTRO

ACTIVITY | Hop On!

- Welcome, friends! I'm so glad to be at church with you today.
- I have a question for you...
 - **When was a time you had to wait?** Maybe you had to wait for your birthday or for your mom to make lunch.
- **Have you ever been to Disneyland or maybe to the fair and had to wait in line for a ride?** Raise your hand if you have.
- It takes a lot of patience to wait for your turn to go on a ride! Let's play a game called "Hop On!"
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lay a blanket on the ground. Have kids walk or dance around the blanket while music plays. As soon as the music stops, yell out, "Hop on!" which tells the kids to get on to the blanket as quickly as possible.
 - **TODDLER HACK:** Younger kids might need a little physical help moving onto the blanket. You can run around the edges as the ride attendant and gently usher on any little toes or body parts that are off the blanket.
- In our game, we had to wait until the right time to hop on the ride!
- In today's story, Jesus waited until the right time to start telling people to follow God.

STORY TIME

SNACK

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out pre-packaged goldfish crackers to each child. Kids can eat quietly on their sit-spot while you tell the Bible story.
 - Be sure to check for any allergies before serving snack

SCRIPTURE | Matthew 4:12-23 (Jesus Begins His Ministry)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** As you read the story, have the kids participate by doing some fun motions together as indicated below. For added fun, you can have a spray bottle and spray mists in to the air – kids will definitely enjoy that!
- One day, while walking by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw two brothers named Andrew and Simon Peter. They had spent time with Jesus before, but this time was different.
- Andrew and Peter were fishing on their boats by throwing huge nets into the water.
 - **Let's pretend we are on a boat and sway side to side.**
- Jesus called out to them saying, "Come, follow me!" and invited them to share about God with other people so that others can follow Jesus, too.
 - **Let's wave like we are inviting someone to follow us.**
- **What do you think Andrew and Peter decided to do?** They left their fishing nets right away and went with Jesus!
 - **Everyone stand up! Let's run from this side of the room to the other side!**
- After this, Jesus saw two more brothers named James and John. They were also fishing on the lake.
 - **Let's sit and sway side to side like we're on a boat again.**
- Jesus called out to them, too, saying, "Come, follow me!"
 - **Let's wave like we are inviting someone to follow us.**
- **What do you think James and John decided to do?** Just like Andrew and Peter, they also left their fishing nets right away and went with Jesus!
 - **Everyone stand up! Let's run back to the other side of the room!**

- Andrew, Peter, James, and John were all ready to follow Jesus!
 - Jesus made them a promise when they decided to follow him. He told them that instead of fishing for fish, like they were used to, now they would fish for people!
 - That meant that they would go out and tell lots of people about Jesus – when the time was right.
- Jesus traveled all over Galilee. Jesus healed people who were sick and continued teaching people all about God. And his new friends were right there beside him the whole time, learning to follow God.
- That way, when God had a special job for them, they'd be ready to do it!
- When God has a job for you, he will make you ready, too!

BIG IDEA | God makes us ready at the right time.

- That reminds me of our Big Idea today! Here's what it says:
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Point to and read today's Big Idea posted on the white board.*
 - **God makes us ready at the right time.**
- Can you repeat it after me?
- Being ready means we have everything we need to do what we have to do.
 - **What do you do to get ready to eat?** Wash your hands, help set the table, or tell your siblings dinner is ready.
 - **What do you do to get ready for bed?** Brush your teeth, find your favorite stuffed toy, read a book, or get your pajamas on.
- Jesus came to earth to bring people to God, but Jesus waited until the right time to start doing that.
- God wants us to do big things, too. We might want to grow up and do everything right now, but **God makes us ready at the right time** When God says, "Go!" we'll know that's the perfect time!

MUSIC | Dance and Sing

- I'm so glad that God makes us ready for what we need to do. Let's stand up and celebrate together! Will you dance with me?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Invite kids to stand while you play the worship motion videos.*
 - *Make it fun to get kids excited about participating. Dance along, be silly, sing it loud!*

MEMORY VERSE | Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

- You sound so wonderful when you worship! Thanks for dancing with me.
- All month we've been working on a new memory verse together! Are you all ready to hear it?
- **"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need."**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read the memory verse to the kids, then practice memorizing it all together along with the motions.*
 - **Seek** (*looking out with hand shading eyes*)
 - **the Kingdom of God** (*point both fingers up*)

- o **above all else** (move pointed fingers down like a rainbow)
- o **and live righteously** (two thumbs up)
- o **and he will give you everything you need** (hands stretched out to the sides, swoop in toward self, ending in a hug)
- o **Matthew 6:33** (clap hands together, then open like a book)

PRAYER

- Now, we're going to head to our small groups to talk with our friends, but first, let's pray together.
- Did you know that prayer is one of the ways God gets us ready to do what we need to do?
- **Can you show me you're ready to pray by folding your hands together and closing your eyes?**
 - o God, you made Jesus ready to tell others about you at the right time, and we know that you will make us ready at the right time, too. Amen.

SHARING TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.

DISCUSSION | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Review the Bible story by discussing these questions:
- **What did Jesus tell others to do?** Follow God!
- **What were Andrew, Peter, James, and John doing before Jesus spoke to them?**
- **How did these brothers respond to Jesus when he told them to follow him?**
- **What does this story tell you about being ready to follow God?** God will make you ready, too!

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- **Matthew 6:33** (*clap hands together, then open like a book*)
- Award prizes for saying the verse.

ACTIVITY | Ready to Fish

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Distribute a stick and a pipe cleaner to each kid. Have them wrap one end around the stick and bend the opposite end of the pipe cleaner into a hook or j-shape to form a fishing pole. Use a hole punch to create a hole in the [Big Idea fish](#). Then, thread the card onto the hook of their fishing pole.*
- Andrew, Peter, James, and John were trying to catch fish before Jesus invited them to follow him! Jesus also invites each of us to come and follow him, and **God makes us ready at the right time!** Jesus wants us to share about God with other people so that others can follow Jesus, too.

PLAY TIME

EXTRA TIME ACTIVITY | Ready, Set, Go

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Line kids up for a relay race, showing them where the finish line will be. You can say, "Ready . . . set . . ." as drawn-out as you like, and then when you say "Go" the first person in line will run to the finish line and back. Each child will take turns doing the same.*
 - *Try doing different ways of getting to the finish line and back: skipping, hopping, crawling, etc.*
- In our game, you had to be ready to go so that you could take your turn when you heard "GO!"
- When God says "GO!" and wants us to do big things in life, we'll know it's the perfect time!