



# STORIES OF JESUS IN MATTHEW

## LESSON PLANS

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# INTRODUCTION



Wesleyan Publishing House is happy to provide Speed Sketch Bible Stories customers with these free lesson plans and resources, which offer options and ideas for how to build a children's lesson around a Speed Sketch Bible Stories video. The "Review and Memory Time" options provided at the bottom of each lesson page refers to the additional Review Options PDF resource also available at [www.speedsketchbible.com](http://www.speedsketchbible.com). Some of the options provided in the Review Options resource suggest the use of an additional product available for purchase: BibleStoryCards, which is available for purchase at [www.wphresources.com/biblestorycards](http://www.wphresources.com/biblestorycards).

Blessings to you in your ministry,  
The WPH Staff

# SERMON ON THE MOUNT



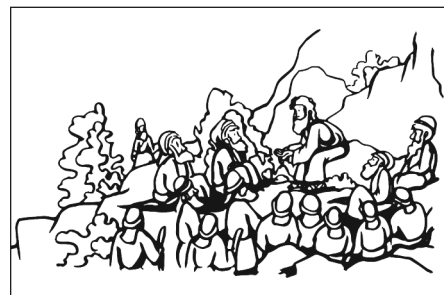
**Story Reference:** Matthew 5–7

**Memory Verse:** Matthew 7:24 — “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

## STORYTELLING TIME

### To the Storyteller

Children are constantly exposed to high-tech entertainment through TV, movies, and video games. This can and does dull their sensitivity toward listening to others. We must reclaim the territory of meaningful communication with our children. If we do, we can expect them to be more sensitive to the voice of God in their lives.



### Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

**Memory Object:** A microphone or megaphone

**Giveaway:** A paper megaphone

**Story/Object Association:** Showing that Jesus had to speak loudly when he was preaching the Sermon on the Mount

### Review Questions

1. Why did the people want to listen to Jesus? **(They knew Jesus cared for them and wanted to help them.)**
2. What did Jesus do when he saw the crowd? **(He started walking to a mountain.)**
3. What did the crowd of people do? **(They followed Jesus to the mountain and sat down.)**
4. Where was the mountain located? **(Near Capernaum)**
5. What were some of the topics Jesus talked about? **(He talked about how people should treat each other, how they could tell others about God’s love and forgiveness, how they should give to the poor, about heaven, and even how they should pray.)**

**Life Application Question:** How does Jesus speak to us today? **(Through the Bible, through other people, through prayer, and through the Holy Spirit)**

### Prayer Focus

Listening to God

## REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

### Review Options

Bible Bingo #5  
Character Quotes #8  
Shaving Cream Review #18  
Bible Story Bag #27

### Memory Verse Options

Memory Verse Match #7  
Pass the Hat #9  
Catch a Verse #12

### Memory Object Options

Object Match #2  
Object Mural #8

# JESUS HEALS SICKNESS



**Story Reference:** Matthew 8:1–17

**Memory Verse:** Matthew 8:17—"This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: 'He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases.'"

## STORYTELLING TIME

### To the Storyteller

Sickness and physical suffering are relevant concerns to which children can easily relate. Keep in perspective that all of the people Jesus healed later would still die; and for the hundreds Jesus did heal, thousands did not get to meet him and experience his healing firsthand. The faith of the centurion is one that knows God has the power, but it also trusts how God answers.



### Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

**Memory Object:** Health thermometer

**Giveaway:** Bandage

**Story/Object Association:** Sick and hurt people

### Review Questions

1. How did Jesus heal the man who had very contagious leprosy? (**He reached out and touched him.**)
2. What did the centurion want from Jesus? (**He wanted Jesus to heal his servant who was very sick.**)
3. When Jesus asked if he should go to the centurion's house to heal his servant, how did the centurion reply? (**He said he didn't deserve to have Jesus go to his house. He said Jesus had the power to heal by just saying it, and it would be done.**)
4. What did Jesus think was so amazing about this centurion? (**His faith—Jesus told his disciples the centurion's faith was greater than anyone's he had seen.**)
5. To whose house did then Jesus go, and whom did he heal? (**The disciple Peter's house, and Jesus healed Peter's sick mother-in-law.**)

**Life Application Question:** How does Jesus heal today? (**By answering prayers and working through doctors and nurses. Allow for a variety of answers.**)

### Prayer Focus

Prayer for those in our lives who are sick

## REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

### Review Options

Overhead Game #3  
Character Quotes #8  
Beach Ball Review #15  
Story Card Spinner #19

### Memory Verse Options

Pass the Hat #9  
Round Table Memory #14  
Name That Verse #23

### Memory Object Options

Object Bag #3  
Musical Objects #6

# JESUS WALKING ON WATER



**Story Reference:** Matthew 14:22–33

**Memory Verse:** Matthew 14:27 — "But Jesus immediately said to them: 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.'"

## STORYTELLING TIME

### To the Storyteller

Fear is a commonly shared sensation. Each person has various fears of varying degrees. Children of different ages fear different things. Some may fear dogs; others fear the "monster" under the bed or any of a host of real or perceived intruders. Jesus wants to calm the fears that can hinder our relationship with him. Children are greatly helped when they understand the difference between natural fears (such as, fear as a result of an oncoming car which is about to hit you) and unnatural fear (such as, always fearing that you're going to be hit by a car), and that God wants to help them control both.



### Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

**Memory Object:** A tennis shoe

**Giveaway:** A tennis shoe key chain or a shoe lace

**Story/Object Association:** Jesus walking on the water

### Review Questions

1. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do? (**Get into their boat and start sailing across the sea**)
2. Why did Jesus go to the mountain? (**To be alone with God and pray**)
3. Why were the disciples afraid? (**They thought they saw a ghost walking on the water.**)
4. What did Peter ask Jesus? (**If he could walk on the water to meet Jesus**)
5. Why did Peter start to sink into the water? (**He took his eyes off Jesus.**)

**Life Application Question:** What scares children? (**The dark or storms. Allow for a variety of answers.**)

### Prayer Focus

Overcoming fear

## REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

### Review Options

Overhead Game #3  
Bible Basketball #6  
Newspaper Search #17  
Story Diorama #22

### Memory Verse Options

Memory Verse Pocket #6  
Catch a Verse #12  
Name That Verse #23

### Memory Object Options

Object Bag #3  
Object Poster #7

# THE TRANSFIGURATION



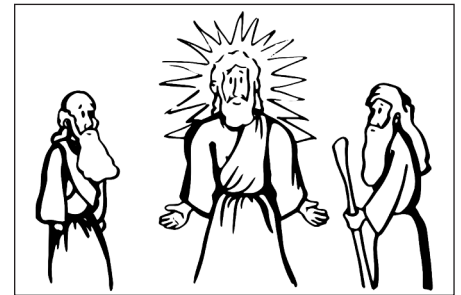
**Story Reference:** Matthew 17:1–9

**Memory Verse:** Matthew 17:2 — "There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light."

## STORYTELLING TIME

### To the Storyteller

Everyone has an opinion on what worship is or should be. But don't be intimidated by all the opinions. This story provides you with a tremendous opportunity to focus on worshiping God — especially the part of worship where we hear God. Children always want to know how they can hear God since they can't see him. God speaks to each of us in a variety of ways through our worship experiences. Worship is the key to a vital relationship with God.



### Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

**Memory Object:** A light bulb

**Giveaway:** A small battery or flashlight bulb

**Story/Object Association:** That Jesus shone brightly when he was transfigured

### Review Questions

1. Whom did Jesus take with him to the mountain? (**Peter, James son of Zebedee, and John**)
2. What is a transfiguration? (**When someone changes how he or she looks on the outside**)
3. When Jesus was transfigured, how did he look? (**His face glowed like the sun, and his clothes were as white as light.**)
4. Why did the disciples fall to the ground? (**They were afraid.**)
5. What secret were the disciples supposed to keep? (**They were not to tell anyone about what they saw happen to Jesus.**)

**Life Application Question:** How can God change us on the inside? (**He helps us to want to do things that are good and right. Allow for a variety of answers.**)

### Prayer Focus

Praise to God for all he is and does

## REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

### Review Options

Give Me a Clue #2  
Name Scramble #7  
Bible Baseball #12  
Card Collection #20

### Memory Verse Options

Memory Verse Envelope #3  
Memory Choir #15  
Memory Verse Mobile #22

### Memory Object Options

Bible Biography #1  
Memory Object  
Bookmark #9

# THE RICH YOUNG RULER



**Story Reference:** Matthew 19:16–30

**Memory Verse:** Matthew 19:26 — "Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"

## STORYTELLING TIME

### To the Storyteller

It is fairly easy to recognize the need to follow Jesus; it is, however, not as easy to do it. Like the rich young ruler, each of us has struggled with giving up what we think we must have in order to gain the life Christ has for us. Encourage your children to make wise choices that put God first and their own wants last.



### Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

**Memory Object:** Ten dollar bill

**Giveaway:** A piece of play money

**Story/Object Association:** The rich young ruler

### Review Questions

1. What question did the rich young man ask Jesus? (**What good thing he should do so he would go to heaven**)
2. What did Jesus tell the man he had to do? (**Sell everything he owned and give the money to the poor**)
3. Why didn't the rich man sell his possessions? (**He loved his possessions more than obeying Jesus.**)
4. What did Jesus tell the disciples about a camel? (**It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to get into heaven.**)
5. What did Jesus say was possible with God? (**Anything is possible with God.**)

**Life Application Question:** What keeps people from following Jesus? (**People are tempted to want and do things that are wrong and they give in to the temptation.**)

### Prayer Focus

Someone who doesn't know Jesus

## REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

### Review Options

Bible Basketball #6  
What Am I? #10  
Story Review Cards #23  
Bible Story Mural #26

### Memory Verse Options

Memory Verse Card Drill #4  
Memory Ladder #16  
Memory Verse Sticks #20

### Memory Object Options

Object Match #2  
Object Mural #8

# PETER'S DENIAL



**Story Reference:** Matthew 26:57–75

**Memory Verse:** Romans 10:9 — "If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

## STORYTELLING TIME

### To the Storyteller

Peter was faced with the temptation of denying Christ. If he didn't deny Christ, he could lose his life! It is a blessing to have the freedom to worship our Lord without fear of death. It is our responsibility to show children the freedom and joy of openly worshiping and proclaiming Christ, though some may ridicule.



### Storytelling Methods

Show Speed Sketch Bible Stories video.

**Memory Object:** Candy bar

**Giveaway:** Mini candy bars

**Story/Object Association:** Peter denied Jesus three times.

### Review Questions

1. What does the word *deny* mean? (**To say that you don't know someone or something**)
2. Who did Jesus say would deny him? (**Peter**)
3. Where did Peter wait to hear about Jesus? (**In the courtyard**)
4. How many times did Peter deny Jesus? (**Three**)
5. What happened after Peter denied Jesus? (**A rooster crowed.**)

**Life Application Question:** How can we tell others about Jesus? (**By sharing about how Jesus has helped you and how much you love him. Allow for a variety of answers.**)

### Prayer Focus

Courage to openly worship Christ

## REVIEW AND MEMORY TIME

### Review Options

- Give Me a Clue #2
- Guess My Name #11
- Bible Story Mural #26
- Bible Wheel of Fortune #29

### Memory Verse Options

- Memory Verse Card Drill #4
- Memory Ladder #16
- Memory Verse Mobile #22

### Memory Object Options

- Object Sequence #5
- Object Mural #8