Ages Birth – 23 Months

Lesson 4
Extreme Sayings of Jesus

"Love God the most!"

The Point of the Lesson:

Having a lot of money and possessions does not bring happiness. We want each child to hear that God wants us to be happy with what we have.

The Power of God's Word:

"Love of money causes trouble." 1Timothy 6:10a CEV

The Prayer of Each Child:

Dear Jesus, I want you to be number one in my life. Please help me to not always want more toys and things. Amen.

The Lesson in a Word:

Love God the most!

Prepare: (Before Service)
Bubbles

Provide: (10 Minutes)
This is a time when children are checked into a classroom. New walkers and toddlers are provided with a choice to participate in learning center activities. Time is allowed at the end of this segment for classroom clean up, especially to make space on the story rug.

Promote: (25 Minutes)
At this time the children are guided to sit on a story blanket to get a cookie from the leader. This process includes 15 minutes for curriculum video, 5 minutes for story and verse, 2 minutes for the game, and 1 minute for prayer time.

(Bring in the snack from the cabinet.) It's Story Time. Come over to the story rug. It's time to sit down to watch our movie. Come sit down and have a snack. Great job! (Pass out a snack to every child and start the movie.)

Story:
(Hold up the Parent Handout so the children can see the picture and the leader can read the story on the back.) Today's Bible story is about a very special boy named Joseph.

"What must I do? What must I do?"
The young man didn't have a clue.
Jesus listened as the young man spoke.
"What must I do to have eternal hope?"

Jesus told the man to obey all God's rules.
The man said, "I have, since I was a boy in school."
Jesus then told him to sell all he had and to come and follow Jesus,
that would make him glad.
But the young man left, all sad in his mind.
He couldn't leave money or riches behind.

Memory Verse:
Love of money causes trouble. 1Timothy 6:10a CEV

Video:
Turn on DVD and play Lesson Video here.

Game:
I Love Jesus
While sitting on the floor, say "We all have a special game or toy. Maybe (child's name) likes Tigger and The Wiggles. Maybe (child's name) likes Princesses and Dora the Explorer. Jesus wants us to love Him more than all of our special toys. Let's all say 'I love Jesus' together." Start off by whispering "I love Jesus", and then say it with a soft voice, then a loud voice, and lastly a really loud voice. Then go backwards.

Pray:
It's hard to listen when we are looking around. So, when we pray we close our eyes and fold our hands. Let's play "Open - Shut Them" before we pray:

Open *(open hands),* ***Shut Them*** *(make a fist)*
Open *(open hands),* ***Shut Them*** *(make a fist)*
Give a little clap*.*
Open *(open hands),* ***Shut Them*** *(make a fist)*
Open *(open hands),* ***Shut Them*** *(make a fist)*
Put them in your lap*.*

Dear Jesus, I want you to be number one in my life. Please help me to not always want more toys and things. Amen.

Praise: (5 Minutes)
This is a time of classroom worship through singing and music. Plug in your own worship session here.

(Sing this song to the tune of: Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes)
God is always number one, number one.
God is always number one, number one.
We need to love God the most because
God is always number one, number one.

Play: (15 Minutes)
This section includes free playtime around the classroom. At this time the leaders will also check and change diapers of all the children.