

*Preschool Spring*  
*Lesson 12:*  
*Nicodemus Talks to Jesus – I Can Too!*

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Learn that Nicodemus wanted to talk to Jesus – **John 3:1-21**
- 2) Be happy knowing Jesus wants to talk to us too.
- 3) Recognize that Jesus is our special friend

**Accommodations:** How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

- See Lesson 1 for ideas

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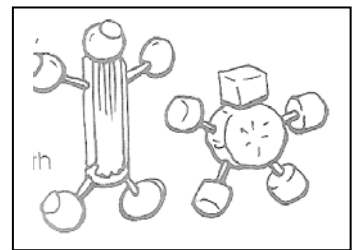
**Supplies:** Check with coordinator to ensure supplies are ready.

**Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)**

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Sheet
- Stickers – enough for each child to have one every lesson for 13 lessons
- Pictures of Times to Talk to Jesus
- Nicodemus talks to Jesus Page – one per student
- Talk to Jesus Activity Sheet – one per student
- Scissors to share (or for teacher to use if students are too young to cut on their own)
- Glue sticks to share

**Optional Activities**

- Doll Template – one sheet per student printed on cardstock paper
- Scissors to cut out dolls
- Shoebox – one per student or to share to be a “house”
- J is for Jesus Sheet – one per student
- Action Game Template – one per class cut in half before class
- Tape to put up game template
- **Snack people** – Children can make Jesus and Nicodemus out of snacks
- Toothpicks – 5 cut in half per student (make sure there are no shards of wood left)
- Celery piece – one per student
- Cheese chunk – one per student (1 x 1 inch cube of cheese)
- Grapes – 10 per student
- Banana slice – one per student (1 inch piece of banana)
- Napkins
- Cups with water
- Puppet to tell story from Bible

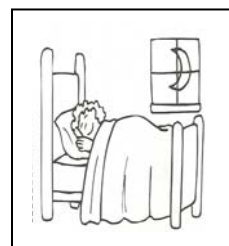


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**Lesson:**

**1) Introduction to lesson:**

\*Before class cut out and have ready “Pictures of Times to Talk to Jesus” to use as visuals during students arrival.



As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Have them sit around the table.

As you wait for all students to arrive, lay out the different pictures about different times we can talk to Jesus on the table and let students look through them and talk about what each picture is about and how it relates to what we will learn today – that no matter what time it is – we can talk to Jesus.

Tell students: **Jesus likes us to talk to Him; did you know that? It makes Jesus happy when you and I talk to Him. Today we will see that someone came at night to talk to Jesus and Jesus was there to listen and help – even though it was late at night. Jesus is there for us too when we talk and pray to Him – no matter what time of day or night!**

Let's sing some songs about Jesus.

### **We Can Talk to Jesus**

Tune: Row, row, row your boat

Talk, talk, talk to Jesus, we can talk to Him.  
Happily, happily, happily, happily you can talk to Jesus.

\*Replace "Talk" with Pray, Sing, Listen

### **I am Jesus' Little Lamb**

Tune: "Mary Had a Little Lamb"

I am Jesus' little lamb, little lamb, little lamb,  
I am Jesus' little lamb and He takes care of me!  
I follow Him to Bible school, Bible school, Bible school.  
I follow Him to Bible school and He is glad to see me!

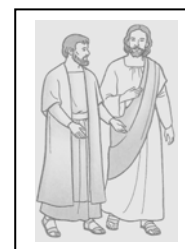
## **2) Nicodemus Talks to Jesus**

**10-20 minutes**

Before class: gather "Nicodemus Talks to Jesus" sheet and crayons.

\*Optional: Get a puppet to tell the account from the Bible.

Say: **Today we are going to read from the Bible about a man who was happy to talk to Jesus – his name was Nicodemus.**



Read paraphrased version of **John 3:1-21** below:

Show picture of Nicodemus and Jesus. **One time at night, Nicodemus went to talk to Jesus. Because it was night, it was dark and quiet. Everyone was home. Nicodemus had waited all day to come to talk to Jesus. Once Nicodemus was at the house, Jesus came out to meet Nicodemus. They were alone. Nicodemus asked Jesus some questions. Jesus told Nicodemus that God loved him and loves everyone who listens and believes in Jesus. And Jesus told him many more important and wonderful things. Afterward, Nicodemus left.**

**Jesus is there for anyone who wants to talk to Him. He is there for you and me right now to talk to. We talk today to Jesus in prayer. Jesus loves us and is wonderful for wanting to talk with us!**

**Jesus likes it when we talk to Him today as well – We can pray to Jesus anytime and He will listen. That should make us happy!**

**Show me how you feel knowing you can talk to Jesus in prayer anytime. Happy  
How do we talk to Jesus today, raise your hand if you know? We pray!**

**Let's all sing some songs about Jesus!**

### **We Can Talk to Jesus**

Tune: Row, row, row your boat

Talk, talk, talk to Jesus, we can talk to Him.  
Happily, happily, happily, happily you can talk to Jesus.

\*Replace "Talk" with Pray, Sing, Listen

### **Jesus Loves (Action Rhyme)**

Thea Cannon

**Jesus loves all children –  
The ones still very small**

(Use hand to indicate knee-high child.)

**The baby in the cradle,**

(Fold arms to form cradle and rock.)

**The ones so big and tall.**

(Hands reached high over head.)

Thank class for singing and then have them sit at the table.

Hand out one sheet with crayons to each child. Let them scribble-color the page and talk about the fact that we are all happy that Jesus is there for us to talk too – just like He was for Nicodemus!

### **3) Talk to Jesus Activity Sheet with Stickers**

**15-20 minutes**

**Before class:** print sheet and if needed cut out stickers from the bottom of the page for those too young to use scissors. Gather glue sticks and crayons and scissors as needed.



**During class:** Hand out one sheet to each student and read the words on the page. Have students scribble-color the picture of the boy and girl praying. Talk about how wonderful it is that we can talk to Jesus any time of day. Next hand out stickers and let students glue them on page. Talk about each sticker and what place is shown on the sticker. Discuss how we can talk to Jesus whether we are at home, in our room, playing, going out, in the car, at a restaurant, in our bed, or at the

supper table – anywhere at any time! Let students scribble-color the stickers and then ask them to help clean up before moving onto the next activity.

#### 4) Optional: Jesus Says – Action Game

5 minutes

Line the students up in a row so that they can all see you and have enough space to move their hands and feet without hitting anyone beside them.

Say to the students: **We are going to play a game about listening to Jesus. We talk to Jesus but we also have to listen to Jesus to – we do that through the Bible.**

**I want you to follow and do what I say. When I say, “Jesus says”, I want you to do what He would tell you to, ok?”** The idea is you ask the students to do different things that would show honor to Jesus.

**Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job...**

Here are some ideas to get started, you can add your own as well.

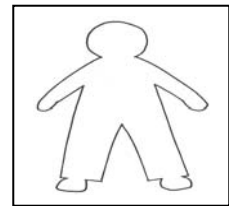
- Jesus says go to church (pretend to go to church)
- Jesus says put your toys away (pretend to clean)
- Jesus says go to bed (lay down and pretend to fall asleep)
- Jesus says help your mother (act like they are helping mom with something)
- Jesus says say your prayers (practice saying prayers)
- Jesus says eat your supper before desert (pretend to eat)
- Jesus says obey your parents (pretend to listen to parents)
- Jesus says give a hug (pretend to hug)
- Jesus says - say thank you (say thank you)
- Jesus says - say I love you (say I love you)
- Jesus says read the Bible (pretend to read the Bible)

**Thank class for playing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity.**

#### 5) Optional: Jesus and Nicodemus Paper Dolls

10-15 minutes

**Before class:** Cut out paper dolls with scissors and gather crayons and a shoe box for each student or to share.



**During class:** Hand out paper dolls and let each student color and draw in features – one doll will be Nicodemus, one will be Jesus. Next give them a shoe box turned on its side so that Nicodemus and Jesus can go in and out of the shoebox and use it as a “house” for them. Let students pretend to have Nicodemus come and talk to Jesus and Jesus come out of the house to greet and talk with Nicodemus. Discuss **how wonderful it is that Jesus – our friend and God’s Son is always wanting to talk to us, just as He talked with Nicodemus!**

#### 6) Optional Activity: Follow Jesus Game

10 minutes

Have students line up in a row and tell them that you are going to play follow the leader. Whatever you do, they need to follow you and do. Just like we need to remember to follow Jesus, the students should follow you!

Ideas: hop on one foot, stomp your feet, march in place, flap your arms, touch your head, rub your stomach, shake your leg, shake your other leg, do jumping jacks, say a prayer, etc.

## 7) Optional: J is for Jesus Sheet

10 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each student with crayons. Go through the sheet finding all the items that start with “J”, remind students that Jesus starts with the letter “J”.

## 8) Sing

Choose songs from the Songs Pages.

## 9) Pray and Nicodemus Action Game

5-10 minutes

Have students get in a line all with their backs against the wall. On the walls to their left and right clear the area from obstacles (or if needed do this activity outside) and place a “Pray” page on the left wall and a “Nicodemus” page on the right wall.

Tell the students: **To remind us that Nicodemus talked with Jesus - we are going to play a game. See the pictures of someone praying or talking with Jesus? See the picture of Nicodemus? When I call you name, starting with \_\_\_\_\_ (point to the child closest to you and say their name), I will say on your mark, get set, then I will either say “pray” and the person in front will run to the “pray” page and touch it before running back to the back of the line. Or, I will say on your mark, get set “Nicodemus” and you will run to the “Nicodemus” page and touch it before going to the back of the line. We will go through each student one at a time - only one person will be running at a time to make sure no one gets hurt, OK?**

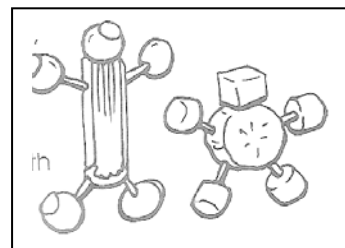
Randomly pick either pray or Nicodemus and let the children one at a time run to the correct sign. When done and if they are enjoying this game, let them go another round or two, ensuring each child who wants to, gets a turn.

When finished thank the children for waiting for their turn and for following the rules and then move on to the next activity.

## 10) Optional - Snack People

5 minutes

Before class gather the supplies needed above in snack section list. Either prepare the snack people as shown in the picture ahead of time, or let students make their own Nicodemus and Jesus snack people. Hand out a celery stick to each student with 5 toothpicks, let them insert the half sticks as shown in the picture into the celery, then attach 5 grapes onto the ends of the toothpicks, next do the same with the banana slice, with the cheese as a head and grapes as hands and feet.



Remind them: **that these snacks are part of God’s wonderful creation for us to enjoy and they are good, God is wonderful and so is Jesus - God’s Son! These remind us that Nicodemus came to talk to Jesus and we can talk to Jesus by praying too!**

As students snack, talk about all the different places we can pray and talk to Jesus.

After snack have kids clean up. Then move on to the remaining activities.

### **11) Close in prayer**

Tell students that **we are going to pray, to pray we need to put down everything and fold our hands and bow our heads like this** (show students). **This way we can hear and listen to the prayer and when we sit quietly and focus on God – it makes God happy! We learn this in God’s Word the Bible and we need to obey God.**

First: Ask if there are prayer requests that kids want to share. Make a list. Then give the list to the assistant or read yourself.

Second: Remind students to fold hands and bow heads then pray:

Thank You God for Jesus Your Son. Thank You God that Jesus is alive and rose from the dead. Thank You God that Jesus helps us as He helped his friends and those in need. Thank you that we can pray to You and Your Son Jesus. Thank you God for our families, our friends, our pets and our church family too. Thank God as well that we can know that we are safe and in good hands because Jesus is our friend. Thank you God for your Son Jesus who loves us and thank you God for everyone here today and those who could not be here because they were sick or away. We pray for those who are sick that you will make them better.

We pray you will bring us all back to Sunday school next week safely.

In Jesus name, Amen.

### **12) Remind students**

To take home any sheets or crafts. Thank them for coming and ask them to help clean up before they leave.

### **13) Greet Parents at door**

Ensure all students go to parents or if some students remain kindly ask them to go to their parents.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!