

FUN FISH – Every Toddler COUNTS

Session 11: Jesus Is Our Friend – ELEVEN – Eleven Sad Helpers

Memory Line: “You are precious to me.” (Isaiah 43:4 NLT)

Welcome:

Theme Song: to the tune of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Twinkle, twinkle, little star. God loves you just as you are.

Up above the world so high. Like a diamond in the sky.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star. God loves you just as you are.

Number and Topic:

It isn't easy to find the number ELEVEN, but it is there. If you play cricket or football, there are ELEVEN people on a team. If you have a dozen eggs and drop one of them, there are eleven left!

Bible Story: ELEVEN Sad Helpers (Luke 24, Acts 1)

Dolls, puppets or dressed up wooden spoons:

Jesus

Eleven helpers – Eleven is a big number. Use cuddly toys as well, or rolled-up socks

Two angels

Materials needed: (feel free to swap the materials with what you have)

Green cloth for mountain

White cloth for clouds to hide Jesus

Brown cloth or box for the house

Reflective Time (interactive):

Ask the children – Have you ever been sad? How do you know when someone is sad? How can you be a friend to them?

Bean Bag Prayer: “Dear God, thank you for being my friend. Amen.”

Sing a song:

“Every Toddler COUNTS” card for this session:



Story 11: ELEVEN Sad Helpers (Jesus goes to heaven - Luke 24, Acts 1)

Nothing was going right. One day Jesus was alive, with his twelve helpers around him. The next day he had died and one of his helpers as well. Now there were only ELEVEN helpers left, and no Jesus as well.

Then someone ran up to them, a huge smile on her face. "Jesus is alive! I just saw him!"

The helpers shook their heads. "IMPOSSIBLE!"

But Jesus suddenly appeared in the room. The helpers' eyes almost popped out. "Is that you?" they asked. "How did you get in? The doors are locked."

Jesus laughed. "Hi, everyone! Don't be scared. I told you I would come back to life. Look! It's me."

The helpers gathered around, touching his hands. They were too happy for words. Then Jesus took them outside. They climbed a mountain.

One of the helpers asked, "Jesus, there is a lot of sadness on earth. When will you make things happy?"

Jesus smiled. "I came to earth to help you love God. Now it's your turn. Go into the whole world and help people love God. Then they will be happy as well."

The helpers looked at Jesus. "The whole world? That's a huge job!"

Jesus nodded. "It is. But don't worry. I will be with you and send you help."

Then Jesus raised his arms. He rose up into the sky. He disappeared behind some clouds. He was gone... The ELEVEN helpers just stood there, sad again.

Then two angels appeared. "Don't stare in the sky. Jesus is coming back."

The helpers laughed. It made them so happy. They ran back to the town, leaping and singing. Everything would be okay.