

FUN FISH – Every Toddler COUNTS

Session 12: Everyone is Special – Special Number TWELVE – Acts 1

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:

If you think about it, the number TWELVE is everywhere. It is on clocks, watches and mobile phones. TWELVE in the day means, “Time to eat!” In the middle of the night, it means, “Go to sleep!”

Bible Story: Special Number TWELVE (Acts 1)

Dolls, puppets or dressed up wooden spoons:

Eleven helpers

Matthias

Joseph

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

A long stick and a short stick

A room with chairs all around

Reflective Time (interactive):

Ask the children – Who is special in your life? Who is your friend?

Bean Bag Prayer: “Dear God, thank you for friends. Amen.”

Sing a song:

“Every Toddler COUNTS” card for this session:



Story 12: Special Number TWELVE (choosing another helper - Acts 1)

After Jesus went to heaven, his helpers got together. One of them said, "Jesus always had TWELVE special helpers. Now we are eleven. Let's choose another one to make us TWELVE again."

The other helpers nodded and put their heads together. Two names came to mind. Joseph and Matthias. Both people were equally great. But which one should they choose? They didn't know what to do.

The helpers called the two men in for a meeting. "Hello," said the helpers. "Would one of you like to become a Jesus helper?"

But both people said, "We will do whatever you think best."

So, everyone prayed. "Dear God, you know everyone's heart. Please show us which of these two men you would like us to choose."

Then a helper picked up two sticks. One was short, and the other long. He said, "The one who picks the long stick is the one who will be Jesus's new helper."

The helper mixed up the sticks. He held out his fist, with the two sticks tucked in. "Please choose one," he told Joseph and Matthias.

Both the men took a hold of a stick. They pulled it out of the helper's hand. They both held up their stick and looked at them.

Which one had the long one? Matthias! Joseph threw his arms around Matthias. "Congratulations, my friend! I am so happy for you." And Joseph really was.

But that isn't the end of the story. Joseph wasn't Number Twelve, but he was still precious to God. He could still do good things. And the same is true for each of us. We are very precious to God, no matter what we do.