

JOHN

GOD DWELLS WITH US

Grades 1&2 Grades 3&4

John 1:4-5

What Kids Will Do: Make lighthouses to remember that Jesus is the light that shines in the darkness.

What Kids Will Need: cardboard tubes, additional cardboard, white paper, black electrical tape, small yellow stickers, red markers, glue, bottle tops

Preparation Place: Use a cardboard tube as a guide to trace and cut out one cardboard circle about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch larger than the tube for each child. Cut white paper into $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 6-inch pieces so each of the children may have one. Set out one cardboard tube, one piece of cardboard, two 2-liter bottle tops, and one sheet of white paper per child. Then set up the rest of the supplies for kids to share.

Steps **KIDS** JESUS AHOY!



Bible Point: Jesus will shine the way for us.

1. Glue the cardboard circle to the top of the tube.
2. Draw red stripes on the white paper with a marker, and glue the paper around the tube.
3. Attach two bottle tops together with black tape, then glue them to the top of the tube. Cut tiny squares out of the yellow stickers and attach them to the bottle tops to create windows.

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TYING IT TOGETHER

When kids have finished their lighthouses, have them join you. Ask for volunteers to read John 1:4-5. Then ask:

- How do lighthouses help people at sea?
- How can Jesus' light help us?
- Who is Jesus' light shining for?

Say: When people are lost at sea, lighthouses can help them find their way home. Jesus is like a lighthouse for us because he gives us the light of hope that helps us through hard times when we feel lost, confused, or alone. All we have to do is read the Bible and ask him to show us what to do next.

JESUS PERFORMS HIS FIRST MIRACLE

John 2:1-10

Grades 1 & 2 Grades 3 & 4

What Kids Will Do: Make 'stone' water pots as a reminder of Jesus' miracle at Cana.

What Kids Will Need: yogurt cups (from Yoplait or other similarly shaped yogurt cups), white paper, glue, paintbrushes, sponges cut into strips, black or gray acrylic paint, purplish-red acrylic paint, paint smocks

Preparation Place: Cut strips of white paper 2 1/2 x 4 inches. Set out one yogurt cup, one paintbrush, two pieces of white paper, and one sponge strip per child. Set out the rest of the supplies for kids to share, and open your classroom windows for proper ventilation when working with acrylic paints.

Steps **KIDS** WATER OR WINE?

Bible Point: Jesus can do miracles.

1. Put on a paint smock to protect your clothing. Glue the white paper around a yogurt cup.
2. Paint the inside of the yogurt cup with the purplish-red paint, leaving about 1 inch of white space at the top. Then paint the outside of the cup with black or gray paint by dipping the end of the sponge strip in the paint and gently pressing it to the cup all over for a rough, clay-type effect.
3. When your water pot is dry, find a partner, and take turns telling the Bible story to each other.

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TYING IT TOGETHER

After kids have finished painting their water pots, have them join you in a circle. Introduce or review the Bible story.

- Who gave Jesus the power to do miracles?
- Why do you think Jesus did the miracle at Cana?
- What would happen if we poured water into the water pots we just made?

Say: If we pour water into our water pots, it will look like wine because of the purple paint. This will help us remember Jesus' miracle at Cana. Jesus miraculously changed the water in the water pots into wine. Jesus helps us with *all* our problems, no matter how big or how small, if we ask him for help.

Have each child prayerfully share one 'small' problem to ask Jesus for help with. Have the children join you in closing the prayer by saying, 'In Jesus' name, amen.'

WOWS that work

If you have time, create a "water pot" of your own ahead of time so you can demonstrate the clear water flowing into the pot and then seeing the illusion of the water looking like wine.

Suggest that children use their water pots at home as small vases or containers for coins, pencils, and so on. Remind them *not* to drink from the cups because of the acrylic paint.