

Every Job for Jesus

Sample Lesson Plan for Kids



Learn: We can use our talents and skills to love God and love others in creative ways. (5 minutes)

1. Pray for our time together.
2. Ask children: What is your favorite part of school? Do you like a particular subject? What do you like about it? What kind of things do you like to do when you have time to play? Do any of you like sports or to do crafts? Today we are going to talk about how God can use all of those things about you to love him and to love others.
3. Growing into God's purpose for their lives
Read to children: "Think about all the different things God made. Not all colors are the same, or creatures, or seasons, or senses. Being different makes them wonderful, special, and fun. God made many different kinds of people, too — including you! Think about what you like to eat, play, pretend, wear, build, draw, sing, or read. They are all part of how God made you. Some of the things you have fun doing now will be part of what you do when you're all grown up. No matter what jobs you do when you're little or when you're big, you can use them to show God's love to others." (from p.15 of *Every Job for Jesus*)
4. The Bible says, "We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us to exercise them accordingly" (Romans 12:6). We all have different gifts. How exciting! It also tells us, "Whatever you do, do your work heartily" (Colossians 3:23). To work heartily means to do your work well and with excitement.
5. Give a personal example, if there is time.

Discover: Cross-cultural ministry workers use their talents , interests, and skills to love God and love others in creative ways. (15-20 minutes)

1. (Set up photos of cross-cultural workers around the room.) Do you see these boards around the room? Who can tell me why they are here? Each one represents a family working somewhere around the world. Did you know that each one of these families use their interests, skills, and talents to love God and love others? They are creative in how they love God and love others. They do so many different things! Would you like to learn about the special ways each of them does this?
2. Under each photo have a bag with objects inside that represent the creative ways that the people love God and love others. (For example, a thermometer to represent a nurse, or a children's Bible to represent VBS leaders.) Go around the room in a group, give the children the opportunity to open the bags and pull out the objects. Have children identify the objects. Talk about what the object represents and any other information we can offer.
3. Do you know that, even though these workers all do so many different things in the places that they live, that the most important thing that the all do is tell the people they meet about Jesus at the right time?

Romans 10:13-17 says, "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!' But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, 'Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?' So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

So, moving snow with a tractor will not make someone a believer in Jesus? No! Neither will giving them food ... even if it is yummy. Not even helping a sick person will make someone a believer in Jesus. But, it might get their attention and then give the these workers the opportunity to share with them from the Bible about all that Jesus did for us in dying on the cross for our sins.

Reflect & Obey: I can use my talents, interests, and skills to love God and love others in creative ways. I can do this both now *and* when I am grown up. (remaining time)

1. Introduce kids to coloring book *Every Job for Jesus*. Go through every page quickly and have children guess what the people are doing for Jesus. What is this person doing? Do any of you like to do that?
2. Show the last two pages: *I can do this job for Jesus now* and *I can do this job for Jesus when I am big*. We are going to draw pictures on these pages to show these two things. For *Now*, here are some questions you can ask yourself: What do I like to do now that I can use to love the people around me? What interests and talents has God given to me? What am I good at doing? How can I love Jesus and the people around me with that? *Examples: Be a helper at home/school, show kindness to new people.* For *Later*: What do I want to be when I grow up? Can I do that job for Jesus? (Of course!) Can I do that job for Jesus in a different place/country/culture like our missionaries do (point to boards)? (Of course!) We just might have to be creative about it!
3. Pray for the cross-cultural workers and thank God that they are using their talents, skills, and interests to love Jesus and love others.
4. Give the children time to color those two pages. Workers spread out to help with asking questions (see #2), coloring, and writing answers on the page, if needed.
5. Any remaining time the kids may use to color the other pictures. Remind them that they can finish coloring the book at home. And talk with their parents what they learned about how workers use their talents and interests for Jesus and that they can do the same!