

# I Learn About Jesus at Church

## Lesson 3

**Scripture:** Psalm 122:1

**Focus:** ♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

**Bible Words:** "I am happy at church" (based on Psalm 122:1).

### Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

When you think of learning situations you have had in the past, what words come to your mind? Pleasant? Fun? Challenging? Boring? Not appropriate? Hopefully, you've never been bored learning about Jesus. But you may have been. And hopefully, you've never had to endure a class that just wasn't appropriate for you. But you probably have. As you prepare each week, make a promise never to use methods that aren't appropriate for the young children you teach. If you teach about Jesus with methods that are appropriate to young children, they will learn a lot. They will also have a lot of fun—and so will you!

### Lesson 3 at a Glance

#### ACTIVITY TIME

Use one or more of these activities to help children *explore the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.*

**Note:** You can find the CD, visual sheets, and board books in the *Toddlers & 2s Teacher's Classroom Pack.*

#### First Hour Unit 1 Activities

poster, books and puzzles, song



Matching Picture Cards



Scoop 'n' Pour

#### Materials

- sheet 1 unit 1 poster, sheet 5 song poster, *I Am Happy at Church!* book, books and puzzles, CD, CD player

- sheet 4 matching picture cards of children

- 2 plastic tubs; sheet 4 Bible figures; tape; dry cereal; tablecloth; scoops, measuring cups, and other containers

#### Extra Hour Unit 1 Activity

Walking to Church



"Jesus Is My Friend"

#### Materials

- masking tape, sheet 3 church building

- CD *Family Together Time* issue 3 printable file

#### BIBLE TIME

Help children *know that we learn about Jesus at church.*

Bible Time can be done several ways and whenever best fits your schedule. If you do the longer Bible Time story, you will need more items.

- hand mirror, Bible, CD, CD player, baby doll, sheet 3 church building, sheet 4 Jesus figure

Bible Time can be done several ways. If you do one of the other story options, you will need different items.

- Teddy the bear puppet, hand mirror, Bible, CD, CD player, *I Am Happy at Church!* book

#### DISCOVERY TIME

Use one or more of these activities to help children *continue exploring the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.*



A Flashlight Walk



Phone Fun



Special Boxes

#### Saying Good-bye or Transition to Extra Hour

- flashlight, Bible, sheet 3 church building, sheet 4 Jesus figure

- real or toy phones, CD, CD player

- boxes with lids, CD Jesus Head printable file, scissors, address labels, marker, large crayons, stickers, glue

- Bible storybooks, modeling dough, CD *Family Together Time* issue 3 printable file



#### Puppet Fun Learning About Jesus



Riding to Church



Peekaboo Pictures



Coloring and Sticker Fun

#### Saying Good-bye

- Teddy the bear puppet

- riding toys, CD, CD player, large towel
- peekaboo picture board from previous lessons
- CD Church Building coloring page printable file, large crayons, Jesus and happy face stickers

- CD *Family Together Time* issue 3 printable file







## Focus

♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

## Bible Time (shorter version: 5-10 minutes)

Use this Bible Time or the longer version found on the unit 1 pages to help children **know that we learn about Jesus at church.**

### Materials

hand mirror, Bible, CD  
track 1, CD player, baby  
doll, sheet 3 church building,  
sheet 4 Jesus figure



### Before Class

Put the figure of Jesus in the Bible.

### Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The song "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" is recorded on the CD.



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

Read Show Me the Church in the CD Unit 1 Special Needs Helps file for ideas you can use to help children with special needs understand more about the church.

After children have gathered for Bible Time, sing this song several times: (tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

**I like to go to church. I like to go to church.  
With all the other boys and girls,  
I like to go to church.**

At the end of the song, clap and ask everyone to clap. **We're so glad to be at church! We're glad you're at church today!** Hold the mirror in front of each child. **We're so glad \_\_\_\_ is at church today. And we're so glad \_\_\_\_ is at church today.** Do with each child, using each child's name.

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say "Bible." **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let's pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" (track 1) several times:

(tune: "Did You Ever See a Lassie?")

**Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.  
Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God's Word.**

**The Bible tells us that church is a happy place.** Show children the baby doll. **This little girl is ready to go to church. She likes to go to church.** Let children touch and hold the doll while singing this song:

(tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

**I am happy at church. I am happy at church.  
I learn about Jesus at my church.  
I am happy at church.**

Stand up the church building. **The little girl is going to church.** Walk the doll to the church building. **She learns about Jesus at church. Who do you learn about at church?** Allow verbal children to respond. ♥ **We learn about Jesus at church. Can you find the figure of Jesus in the Bible?** Help each child find the Jesus figure in the Bible while singing this song:

(tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

**I can learn at church. I can learn at church.  
I can learn at church. I can learn at church.**

**The Bible says that you** (point to children) **are happy at church and I** (point to self) **am happy at church. Yay!** Clap hands. **Who is happy at church?** Encourage verbal children to say the Bible Words with you. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: ♥ **You can learn about Jesus at church, \_\_\_\_.** PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we can learn about Jesus at church. In Jesus' name, amen.** Encourage verbal children to say "thank You" or "God."



## Discovery Time (15–20 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.**

### A Flashlight Walk



Before this activity, put the Bible and the two pictures in three different areas of the room.

Show the flashlight. SAY: **A flashlight helps us see when it is dark.** Tell the children you are going to dim the lights. Ask the children to follow the light as you lead them on a short walk around the room. Shine the light on the Bible. ASK: **What is that?** Allow verbal children to respond. **We learn about Jesus in the Bible.** Walk and shine the light on the figures of Jesus and the church building. Ask the same type of question. **I'm glad that**

♥ **we learn about Jesus at church.**

*1s will follow the light and point to the items.*

*2s will do the above and respond to questions.*

### Phone Fun

Set out some phones or use the phones in the family living center. Give a phone to a child and keep one for yourself. Call the child on the phone while playing the phone sounds on the CD. **Hello, \_\_\_\_\_. This is \_\_\_\_\_. Would you like to come to church with me?** Encourage the child to respond.

♥ **I learn about Jesus at church. I am happy at church!** Invite verbal children to say with you, **I am happy at church!** Also encourage the children to call each other and say the Bible Words.

*1s will listen on a phone and enjoy being spoken to.*

*2s will do the above, call other children on the phone, and say the Bible Words.*

### Special Boxes

Before class, print copies of the Jesus head printable file and cut them out. Print "I learn about Jesus at church" on labels.

Give each child a small box and let children scribble-color the boxes and decorate with stickers. Give children the Jesus figures, cover the backs of the figures with glue, and help them press the figures onto the inside bottom of the boxes. ASK: **Who is that?** Encourage verbal children to respond. **That's Jesus!** Put the lids on the boxes. **Where is Jesus?** Invite children to remove the lids. ♥ **We learn about Jesus at church.** Help children press on the labels to the outside of their boxes. **Who do you learn about at church? Jesus!**

*1s will decorate their boxes, press on the figures of Jesus and labels, and possibly remove the lids.*

*2s will do the above and respond to questions.*

### Saying Good-bye

For children who are leaving, give parents craft activities and copies of *Family Together Time* issue 3 from the CD. Tell parents something their children enjoyed. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next time!** Note: *Family Together Time* is also available online for families to download. See [www.21stcc.com](http://www.21stcc.com).

## Focus

♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

### Materials

flashlight, Bible, sheet 3  
church building, sheet 4  
Jesus figure



### Teaching Tip

Don't darken the room too much.  
A very dark room will scare some children and is not safe.

### Materials

real or toy phones, CD  
track 9, CD player  
(optional: family living center)



### Materials

small boxes with lids,  
CD Jesus Head printable  
file, scissors, address labels,  
marker, large crayons, stickers,  
glue



### Special Note

Photos of the children's families will be needed for the lesson 5 Family Frames activity.

### Transition to Extra Hour

- Have at least one adult greet new children and at least one adult engage children in activities away from the door.
- Continue Discovery Time choices children are enjoying.
- Read stories about Jesus with children. SAY: ♥ **You can learn about Jesus at church.**
- Let children play with modeling dough. SAY: **We are happy at church!**



## Focus

♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

# Extra Hour Activity and Bible Time

(25–35 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **explore the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.**

## Bible Words

"I am happy at church"  
(based on Psalm 122:1).

### Materials

masking tape, sheet 3  
church building



### Materials

CD *Family Together*  
Time issue 3 printable file



### Materials

Teddy the bear puppet,  
hand mirror, Bible, CD  
tracks 1 and 2, CD player, *I Am*  
*Happy at Church!* book



### Tips About Bible Time

Encourage verbal children and other helpers to sing the songs with you!

The songs "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" and "I Am Happy at Church" are recorded on the CD.

Call Teddy by name. Children will love to hear the name of their furry friend!



Read Special Needs Tips in the CD Special Needs folder for how to use Bible Time with children who have special needs.

## Welcome

- Welcome new children by name.
- Do check-in procedures you follow (name and security tags, etc.).
- Check and change diapers and/or have restroom time.

## Unit 1 Activity Walking to Church

Before class, make a long line on the floor with masking tape. Put the church building at one end. Invite the children to walk on the line to church. SAY: **I like to go to church. ♥ We learn about Jesus at church!**

## "Jesus Is My Friend"

Sing the song from *Family Together Time*. Invite children to clap their hands with you. Use a cleanup song or signal and transition to Bible Time.

## Bible Time

Use this Bible Time, the one from first hour, or the longer version found on the unit pages.

Sing this song several times as each child pets or hugs Teddy:  
(tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

**I like to go to church. I like to go to church.**

**With all the other boys and girls, I like to go to church.**

Clap and ask everyone to clap. **We're so glad to be at church! We're glad you're at church today!** Hold the mirror in front of each child. **We're so glad \_\_\_\_ is at church today. And we're so glad \_\_\_\_ is at church today.**

Show your Bible and ASK: **What is this?** Children should say "Bible." **We love our Bible. It tells us about God. Let's pat our Bible.** Hold the Bible in front of each child. Let each pat the Bible while singing "Oh, I Love to Pat the Bible" (track 1) several times:

(tune: "Did You Ever See a Lassie?")

**Oh, I love to pat the Bible, the Bible, the Bible.**

**Oh, I love to pat the Bible, for it is God's Word.**

Read *I Am Happy at Church!*, showing the pictures as you read. Then sing "I Am Happy at Church" (track 2) and encourage children to clap:  
(tune: "If You're Happy and You Know It"; also sing—"I can sing.")

**I am happy at church, \*I'll clap my hands.**

**I am happy at church, \*I'll clap my hands.**

**I am happy at church. I am happy at church.**

**I am happy at church, \*I'll clap my hands.**

**The Bible tells us that you (point to children) are happy at church and I (point to self) am happy at church.** Encourage children to say the Bible Words. Hold the mirror in front of each child as you SAY: ♥ **You learn about Jesus at church, \_\_\_\_.** PRAY: **Dear God, thank You that we learn about Jesus at church. In Jesus' name, amen.** Have Teddy say good-bye.



## Extra Hour Discovery Time (20–25 minutes)

Do these activities with individual children or a few children at a time to help children **continue exploring the theme, I learn about Jesus at church.**

### Focus

♥ I learn about Jesus at church.

### Puppet Fun Learning About Jesus

Go with Teddy to individual children or small groups of children. **Hi! My name is Teddy. I like to go to church. I like to sing and play with toys. What do you like to do at church?** Invite verbal children to respond. **Do you know what I like best? I like to learn about Jesus at church. I am happy at church.** Encourage verbal children to say the Bible Words with Teddy.

#### Materials

Teddy the bear puppet



### Riding to Church

Set out several riding toys. SAY: **It's time to go to church. Follow me!** Play the car sounds from the CD as you lead the children around the classroom while they ride the toys. Encourage children to honk their horns. After a short walk, SAY: **Here we are at church. ♥ We can learn about Jesus at church. I am happy at church.** Invite verbal children to say the Bible Words with you. For added fun, invite a child to sit on the large towel. Tell the child to hold on while you gently pull the child a short distance to "church."

*1s will* enjoy riding a toy and may follow you.

*2s will* do the above and say the Bible Words.

#### Materials

riding toys, CD track 8,  
CD player, large towel



### Peekaboo Pictures

Put the picture board on the floor or on a table and encourage a child to lift a flap and look at the hidden picture. **Is the girl happy?** Encourage verbal children to respond. **We are happy here at church. Is the boy happy? He likes to learn about Jesus at church. ♥ I learn about Jesus at church too.** Point to yourself and SAY: **I am happy at church.** Ask children to point to themselves and verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

*1s will* enjoy lifting the flaps and look at the pictures.

*2s will* do the above, respond to questions, and say the Bible Words.



Read Drive Me Crazy  
in the CD Unit 1 Special  
Needs Helps file to adapt this  
activity for children who have  
special needs.

#### Materials

peekaboo picture board  
from previous lessons



### Coloring and Sticker Fun

Before class, print copies of the coloring page.

Give each child a copy of the coloring page. **This is a picture of a church building. Who do we learn about at church?** Invite verbal children to respond. ♥ **We learn about Jesus at church.** Let children scribble-color the page and press on stickers of Jesus and happy face stickers. While children work, SAY: **Church is a happy place. I am happy at church! Are you happy at church?** Invite verbal children to say the Bible Words with you.

*1s will* scribble-color the picture and press on stickers.

*2s will* do the above and say the Bible Words.

#### Materials

CD Church Building  
coloring page printable  
file, large crayons, Jesus and  
happy face stickers



### Saying Good-bye

Give parents copies of *Family Together Time* issue 3 from the CD and craft activities their children may have done. Tell each child, **Good-bye. See you next week!**

**NOTE:** *Family Together Time* is  
also available online for families  
to download. See  
[www.21stcc.com](http://www.21stcc.com).