Bonus Activities

Preschoolers

Pretend to Cook a Meal: Gather pretend food and plastic or paper plates. Encourage children to "cook" a meal. Act like you are in a restaurant, ordering food and they deliver it. Talk about how FBC Abilene has a program called the Culinary Academy that trains people in food service and gets them ready for a job in a restaurant.

Older Children

Brainstorm Acts of Kindness: Gather construction paper and pens or pencils. Encourage children to think of acts of kindness that they and their family could do. Brainstorm out loud and encourage children to write down the ones they wish to do. As an additional option, cut out these acts of kindness and place them in jars so that families can draw an act of kindness to do.

All Ages

Play Balloon Volleyball: Blow up a few balloons and tape a line of painter's tape or masking tape on the floor as a "net." Divide your class into two teams and toss the balloon to one team. Each team must hit the balloon over the "net" within three tries. Points are scored if the balloon doesn't go over the net. Talk about how each team had to work together to get the balloon over the net.

Pathlight

www.cbf.net/pathlight

CBF's *Pathlight* curriculum helps children explore the Good News of Jesus through stories, scripture and activities.

cbf

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Pathlight

Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. **Psalm 119:105 (CEV)**

Theme Overview

For more than 100 years, First Baptist Church of Abilene has been sending people out to share God's love. For the last 50 years, FBC Abilene has been working to provide affordable childcare, counseling services and a place for everyone to belong. This session focuses on the theme of sharing God's love.

Bible Verse

James 2:14-17

My friends, what good is it to say you have faith, when you don't do anything to show you really do have faith? Can this kind of faith save you? If you know someone who doesn't have any clothes or food, you shouldn't just say, "I hope all goes well for you. I hope you will be warm and have plenty to eat." What good is it to say this, unless you do something to help? Faith that doesn't lead us to do good deeds is all alone and dead!

Session Outline

Prepare

- Make copies of the Student Handout.
- Review the Story and Bible Verse.

Welcome

- Greet students as they arrive.
- **Ask**: "How have others helped you?"

Engage

- Distribute the Student Handout.
- Read and discuss the Bible Verse.
- Work on the Handout Activity.
- Transition to Story Time.

Share

- Tell the Story, "A Place for Me."
- Share the photo and caption.
- Discuss the Story and pray.

Conclude

- Lead students in Bonus Activities as time permits.

A Place for Me

"Hello, friends. We are so glad you are here," Stephanie Stewart, director of City Light Ministries said, as she addressed everyone in the cafeteria. "And I hope that you are enjoying your lunch. It was cooked for you by two very special people." Stephanie pointed to two people across the room wearing chef coats. "This is Frank and Tamara. Just a year ago, they were where you are." Stephanie said. "Frank wanted to say a few words to you." "Hey, everyone," said Frank. "Like Stephanie said, last year I was sitting in this cafeteria too. I had no place to go, and nothing to eat. And then I found FBC Abilene. They made a place for me. During job counseling, Stephanie asked me what I enjoyed doing. I told her about the last time I remembered being really happy, when I was cooking in the kitchen with my mom. Then she told me about the Culinary Academy. When I graduated, I knew that I would be able to find a job. But I also wanted to give back to this place that had helped me so much. When I heard they were looking for someone to help cook meals, I jumped at the chance. I wanted to tell you: you are worthy. There are things that you are good at. There's a reason that God created you. And things will get better. The people here are wonderful friends. And they are here to help you."

Discussion and Prayer ✱

- **Ask**: How did FBC Abilene help Frank?
- **Ask**: How does FBC Abilene help people in the community who need it?
- **Ask**: How can we help people in our own community?
- **Say**: FBC Abilene and City Light Ministries helped Frank get back on his feet. They gave him a place to belong, good food to eat and training to help him be able to get a job. They also offer affordable daycare for families, counseling services and a space for men, women, and families to shower, eat and fellowship.
- **Pray**: Dear God, thank you for FBC Abilene and City Light Ministries. Help them have the funds they need to continue to help those in their community who need a place to belong. Amen.

First Baptist Church of Abilene

For more than 100 years, First Baptist Church of Abilene has been sending people out to share God's love.

STUDENT HANDOUT
DECEMBER 8, 2024

Pathlight

Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. Psalm 119:105 (CEV)

Learn About

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Create a Stained-Glass Window

Items needed: contact paper; variety of colors of tissue paper; construction paper (optional); glue sticks; scissors

For younger children:

1. Cut contact paper into the sizes you would like to use. Cut shapes out of the tissue paper.
2. Encourage children to rip the tissue paper as well to create various shapes and sizes.
3. Tell children to place their tissue paper wherever they would like on the sticky side of the contact paper.
4. Once children are finished placing their tissue paper, close the contact paper, making sure to get the bubbles out.
5. Talk about how sometimes really hard things happen in our lives. And it can feel like things will never be good again. Those things are like this tissue paper. When you look at your picture, it seems like the paper would block the light. But, when you hold it up to the sunlight, you still see the light shining through.

For older children:

1. Offer children a choice to use the contact paper as is, or to cut it into a shape and create a window using the construction paper. If doing this, be sure they cut the same shape (slightly smaller) out of their construction paper so that they can glue their window on.
2. Encourage children to cut shapes out of tissue paper, or to rip it to create various shapes and sizes.
3. Tell children to place their tissue paper wherever they would like on the sticky side of the contact paper.
4. Once children are finished placing their tissue paper, close the contact paper, making sure to get the bubbles out.
5. If children are creating a window with construction paper, help them glue their contact paper to the construction paper.
6. Talk about how sometimes really hard things happen in our lives. And it can feel like things will never be good again. Those things are like this tissue paper. When you look at your picture, it seems like the paper would block the light. But, when you hold it up to the sunlight, you still see the light shining through.

For pictures (and another way to make these), visit:
https://fun-a-day.com/tissue-paper-stained-glass-spring