

Looking for Jesus

Theme

Only Jesus can forgive sin and give us eternal life.

Object

"Where's Waldo?" book or hidden picture puzzle. (see note following sermon)

Scripture

Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" Mark 1:36-37 (NIV)

A few years ago, "Where's Waldo?" books (also known in some places as "Where's Wally?") were very popular. You still see them in bookstores and libraries. How many of you have seen a "Where's Waldo?" book? If you have, you know what Waldo looks like. He always wears a red and white striped ski cap and a matching sweater. Waldo has a rather goofy smile and wears thick, black-rimmed glasses. In these picture books, Waldo is always in every picture, but he is very hard to find. You can spend a lot of time looking for Waldo. Can you find Waldo in this picture? (Allow the children to look for Waldo if time permits.) Look! There he is!

Looking for Waldo can be a lot of fun, but in real life, looking for someone can be much more serious. Our Bible lesson today tells about a day when a lot of people were looking for Jesus. They were looking for Jesus because they needed something that only he could give them.

Jesus had been traveling around the countryside teaching, preaching, and healing the sick. He had become very popular, and everywhere he went there were great crowds of people. They came to hear him teach about God's love and to be healed of their diseases.

One day Jesus went to visit in the home of Simon Peter. When he got there, Peter's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever, so they told Jesus about her right away. Jesus took her by the hand and helped her up. Immediately the fever left her. She was healed and went in and began to fix dinner for everyone. When the people heard that Jesus was at Peter's house, a large crowd of people began to gather outside the door. People brought their sick friends to Jesus, and he healed many people who had all different kinds of diseases.

The next morning, Jesus woke up before anyone else. He went outside to spend some time alone with his Father in prayer. Later, Peter and the other disciples went looking for Jesus. When they found him, they said, "Everyone is looking for you."

Jesus answered and said, "Let's go to the nearby towns and villages so that I can preach there also. That is why I have come." So Jesus traveled all around Galilee teaching, preaching, and healing people.

People today are still looking for Jesus. They are looking for Jesus because they need something that only he can give them — forgiveness for sin and everlasting life. Are you looking for Jesus? The Bible says "If you search for him with all your heart and soul, you can find him." (Deut. 4:29) You will find him right here in the Bible.

Dear Father, many people today are searching for Jesus. We pray that today will be the day that they find him. Amen.

Where's Waldo Picture



Sermon Title: "Looking for Jesus"

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:35-39

HIDE AND GO SEEK:

Children can divide into teams and take turns hiding and seeking. Play for a few minutes and then have children form a circle and sit down to discuss today's Bible Story.

WHERE IS ???:

Let each child write their name on a piece of paper. One child can HIDE that piece of paper in a designated area while the rest of the class is in another room. Then all the children will attempt to FIND that child's name piece of paper. When someone finds it, everyone will say, "_____ everyone is looking for you!" Continue until all the children have had a chance to hide their own name paper and be found. Tell children today's Bible verse and ask questions about today's lesson or tell the story.

WHERE'S JESUS:

Before class time, the teacher can draw a picture of Jesus or cut out a picture of Jesus and HIDE in a very secretive spot. When the time in our lesson comes to where the people are looking for JESUS, let the children walk around the designated area and call for Jesus ("Jesus, JESUS, where are you"). When the first child finds "JESUS", that child will then take that picture of JESUS to the next part of the story as the teacher tells the story (which will be a picture of the countryside (fields, etc); then another child can take that picture of JESUS to a picture of a Home (of Simon Peter where Peter's mother-in-law was sick); then another child can take that same picture of JESUS to a picture of sick people, and other children can take turns taking the picture of JESUS to another "town/village" picture, and to a place where Jesus might be teaching. Each picture can be on various places on the classroom walls. All the children can get up and follow the child taking the picture to different places in our Bible lesson today.

EYES TO SEE ART:

Give children construction paper, markers, glitter and small colored pieces of cut out felt, to make BIG EYES to "see Jesus". Tell children the bigger the eyes, the better! Children can write JESUS on their EYE art, to remember that others are LOOKING for JESUS every day.

FINGERPRINT EYES:

Provide all the children with ink pads of various colored inks. Children will need construction paper to make pairs of EYES with their own finger prints. Tell children to make many "pairs" of eyes all around the paper. Children can add the eyebrows and eyelashes and write a title on their paper that MANY PEOPLE ARE SEARCHING FOR JESUS.

PAPER PLATE PRAYER:

Each child can be given a paper plate and markers. Children can color the paper plate and draw a big happy face with very BIG EYES on the middle of the plate. Children can write Deut. 4:29, or Mark 1:37 (Everyone is

looking for you), around the edges of the paper plate.

PAPER BAG PUPPET:

Give children a lunch bag to color and the largest craft moving EYES that can be purchased. Children can glue those eyes on the flap of the lunch bag. Children can write words from today's lesson on their bag as they tell their class about today's lesson as they use the bag as their puppet to help others FIND and SEE Jesus!

FINDING JESUS SQUIGGLES:

Each child can be given a piece of paper and colors to draw squiggly lines. They can write the word JESUS within some of their squiggly lines and color the spaces made from the squiggly lines. Then pass their paper to another child for that person to FIND JESUS. When everyone has found JESUS on that paper, they can continue to pass their papers to the right and let other children find JESUS on each paper. Tell children to HIDE JESUS name in between their squiggly lines so it is hard to see.

SING A SONG:

EVERY DAY WITH JESUS; THERE IS A NAME I LOVE TO SING AND JESUS IS HIS NAME (SUNG to the tune of b-i-n-g-o)

SHARE A SNACK:

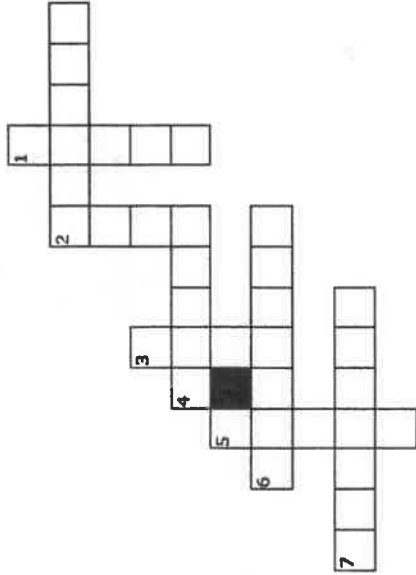
Hide the snacks around the room and ask children, WHERE ARE THE SNACKS? Tell children if they can FIND a snack, they may help themselves to a snack!

Song: "Every Day with Jesus"

[Words and Music \(pdf\)](#)

[MP3 Accompaniment Track](#)

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. To deliver a sermon
4. The opposite of late
6. Searching for something
7. The time from sunrise until noon

DOWN

1. The son of God
2. To talk to God
3. To be without light
5. Located something or someone

LOOKING	PREACH	FOUND	MORNING
DARK	EARLY	JESUS	PRAY



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Children's Worship Bulletin

Looking for Jesus

Mark 1:35-39

Word Search

O P L F L E W Q N E A R B Y I
 I C R C A G S K Q V A Q R X M
 H D T E M V J E S U S B O O Y
 N G H R A G A L I L E E L R E E
 C V B F R C S W I H Y F A C O
 D C I T O D H B N C O T A S C
 A T H L Y U T Z U U I L K Y S
 R F M Y L F N H N L P O D Y G
 A P Q O E A C D O B O E D Y M
 H P C L R O G S J L S W M J K
 O Y R N K N F E A H E M L R T
 R Z T A M V I X S O A F A S F
 O B A D Y Q Q N I U R D M Z P
 R A X I Y E W Q G S L Q Z H X
 K Y R C B V D X F E Y R H S N

PREACH	NEARBY	MORNING	LOOK	GALILEE
HOUSE	EARLY	DARK	PRAYED	PLACE
VILLAGES	JESUS	SOLITARY	LEFT	FOUND

Your Church Name Here
Any Town, Anywhere

Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet.
Substitute the correct letter for the numbers
to reveal the coded words.

Q	C	J	B	E	L	G	A	H	P	X	S	U	F	T	V	I	D	K	W	Z	M	N	Y	R	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 6-9-26-7-25 _____
- 23-2-26-24-18-24-8 _____
- 19-9-26-20 _____
- 4-6-13-14-13 _____
- 10-2-14-13-6 _____
- 13-2-7-18-16-9-26-25 _____
- 11-7-9-3-6 _____
- 11-26-9-25-6-19 _____
- 7-2-2-20 _____
- 15-2-14-24-19 _____

PLACE	EARLY	FOUND	DARK	LOOK
PRAYED	SOLITARY	MORNING	JESUS	HOUSE



Color Me



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