

## **BANANA NEWS**



## **GO DEEPER**

## **SPECIAL WORDS**

### **MEMORY VERSE**

JESUS
(POINT UP)
LEADS
(MARCH IN A CIRCLE)

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." *John 14:6 (NLT)* 

# **DAILY DEVOTIONS**

### **DAY 1: JESUS LEADS**

READ - Luke 5:1-3

Play a game of pretend where your child is a teacher. Do your best to follow and do what the "teacher" says. What do you find Jesus doing at the beginning of Luke 5? He is teaching! Jesus still leads through His teachings in the Bible. You may not be able to physically follow Him as the disciples did, but you can open the Bible, read His words, and follow Him. Will you follow? **Remember: Jesus Leads** 

#### **DAY 2: DO WHAT?!?!**

READ - Luke 5:4-5

Play a fun and silly game of Simon Says. Jesus asked Simon Peter to do something that didn't make sense. Simon was tired. He had fished all night and caught zero fish! Now Jesus was asking him to try fishing again! Simon didn't argue, he let Jesus lead and he obeyed Him. Jesus wants us to always choose to follow His example, even when it doesn't make sense to us. **Remember: Jesus Leads** 

#### **DAY 3: SO MUCH LOVE**

READ - Luke 5:6-7

Get a laundry basket or cardboard box and pretend it is your boat. Act out Simon Peter and the other disciples trying to pull in all the fish! Incredible! Can you imagine how Simon must have felt as they were trying to gather all the fish! Simon learned that Jesus loved Him and had good plans for Him. Jesus has so much love to share! He wants you to trust and obey Him so you can experience the good plans He has for you! **Remember: Jesus Leads** 

#### **DAY 4: SIMON'S RESPONSE**

READ - Luke 5:8-11, Romans 10:9

Have your child come up with examples of things they might feel sorry for after they have done them. When Simon Peter realized who Jesus was he felt sorry for the wrong choices, or sins, he had made in his life. Simon sinned, and so do we. But Jesus loved Simon Peter and us so much that He took the punishment for our sins so that we can have His forgiveness and His joy when we choose to follow Him. **Remember: Jesus Leads** 

#### **DAY 5: JOIN IN**

READ - Luke 5:11, John 14:6

Play a game of "Follow the Leader". Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John immediately left everything they had known and followed Jesus. Jesus led and they chose to follow. Jesus is the way, He is the truth, He is the life. When you choose to follow Jesus' example you are obeying God and that makes God so happy! What are some ways you can follow Jesus today? Obeying parents, being a helper, saying sorry when needed, etc. **Remember: Jesus Leads** 



Materials: water beads

Have you ever felt the amazing feeling of moving your hands through a bowl of water beads? Many people think they feel so good. On this week's episode of Banana News, Sensei Skippy shared how following Jesus' lead feels good too!

Jesus is the perfect leader. He lived His life on Earth showing others how to live in obedience to God. Jesus showed compassion, kindness, and love to others. He is an example of how to do the right thing, even when it's hard. When we choose to obey Him, it pleases Him! That's not always easy, but in the end, following Jesus feels good to our hearts and it makes God happy too.

Place your water beads into a bowl of water and watch them grow. Then play with the beads running your hands through them. As you do, talk to God, ask Him to help you obey Him.



Materials: wooden dowel rod or stick, yarn, magnet, fish cut outs, paper clips, markers

One way we learn how to follow Jesus is by reading and memorizing scripture. Make a fishing verse game set and have fun while putting John 14:6 to memory.

#### Make the fishing rod:

- 1. Tie some yarn to your stick letting the yarn hang at least 18".
- 2. Attach the magnet to the end of the hanging yarn.

#### **Create your fish:**

- 1. Color and cut out the verse fish.
- 2. Attach a paperclip to each fish
- 3. Spread them out on the floor. You could even use a blue sheet or rug as the water.

#### Ways to play:

<u>Speed Fishing:</u> Start a stop watch and see how quickly you can catch your fish and then put them in the right order. Once the fish have been caught and sorted stop the time! How quick were you? Play again to see if you can do it faster or challenge a friend, or someone in your family, to beat your time.

Order Up: Try to catch the fish in correct verse order.

<u>Fish in the Sea:</u> After cutting out and decorating your fish cover them, front and back, with contact paper. Then add the paper clips. Your fish are now water proof and you can practice fishing for your verse in the tub!



Materials: None

Before bed pull your child close beside you and say, "I can follow Jesus' lead!" As you tuck them into bed sing, "Luke 9:23" (<a href="https://ampedworship.com/store/luke-923">https://ampedworship.com/store/luke-923</a> - You do not need to purchase the song, just scroll to the bottom to play!) Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you:

Dear God, Help me to do what you want. Help me to follow Jesus. Thank you for being our leader. In Jesus' name, Amen.