



**Goal:**  
**Speak Out for**  
**Jesus**

**Scripture Verses:**

**John 1:40-42**

**Actis 4:18-20**

**1John 5:7**

It's easy for kids to act like Christians when they're around other Christians. But acting like Christians around non-Christians is another story.

This lesson will examine how difficult it is to talk about Jesus and will help kids experience ways to share faith naturally. It will help them to see faith as an important element of their everyday lives.

### *Choose Your Opening*

#### **Option 1: Blind Without God**

*(For this activity, you'll need a blindfold and a card saying, "You can take off your blindfold" for each child. You'll also need a Bible. Push furniture against the wall.)*

As kids come into the room, blindfold each one and tell them to find chairs and sit in a circle. After kids are seated, hand each a card that says, "You can take off your blindfold." If anyone takes off his or her blindfold and peeks at the card, motion him or her to be quiet. Now read aloud 1 John 1:5-7.

#### **Ask:**

- \*Why are you still wearing your blindfolds?
- \*Why didn't the card help you?
- \*How was your experience with the blindfold like the experience of people who haven't heard about God?
- \*How are God and the Bible like light?

#### **Say:**

People who don't have a relationship with Jesus need to hear about him. If God is really as important as we say, then we should talk about him.

## Option 2: What's Your Commercial?

*(For this activity, you'll need pencils, paper, and a stick of gum for each person.)*

Have each child tell about his or her favorite TV commercial.

### **Ask:**

- \*Why do companies advertise?
- \*What's good about advertising? What's bad?
- \*What are some things you "advertise"?

### **Say:**

We all advertise. For example, a guy who's really into football talks about football. That's his "commercial".

Give kids pencils and paper. Tell them to each write down one thing they talk about often—their personal commercial. Have one student sit in front of others while everyone takes turns guessing what his or her commercial would be, based on what he or she talks about with friends. The person sitting in the front can only answer "yes" or "no" to the group's guesses. Give a piece of gum to each person who guesses correctly. Repeat the game until everyone's had a turn.

### **Ask:**

- \*Why do you talk about the topic written on your paper?
- \*Do you ever talk about your faith? Why or why not?
- \*What makes talking about your faith different from talking about anything else?

### **Say:**

We talk about what we like and what's important to us. Today we'll discover how we can talk about our faith just as we talk about other things that are important to us.



### **Tell My Brother**

(for this activity, you'll need Bibles, markers, pencils, and paper for everyone.)

**Say:** If something is important to us, we tell others about it. Let's look at a story about a man who told his brother something important.

Give kids Bibles, and have them form pairs and read John 1:40-42 together.

**Ask:** Why do you think Andrew told his brother about Jesus?

**Say:** Let's imagine that Andrew is a new Christian at your school. Simon is his best friend, and Andrew is anxious to tell Simon about Jesus.

Distribute paper, pencils, and markers, and have each child draw a cartoon illustrating this conversation. Kids can use word balloons and put Andrew and Simon's conversation in modern language. Ask several pairs to share their cartoons.

**Ask:** How many Christian kids at your school would say what Andrew said in your cartoon?

\*Why is it hard for kids at your school to tell others about their faith?

**Say:** When we're excited about something, we want to share it with others. Andrew was excited about his new friend Jesus. As we get to know Jesus better, our excitement will grow, and we can share as Andrew did.



## **I Swear to Tell the Truth**

*(For this activity, you'll need a Bible for each child.)*

**Say:** I'm going to ask a series of questions. Each person in your group should answer each question, but you each have only fifteen seconds to respond. Try not to think about it too hard; just say the first answer you think of.

- \*What's one reason you believe in God?
- \*What's one thing you're thankful to God for?
- \*When have you felt close to God?
- \*Name one fact you know about God.
- \*Name one person you're praying for.
- \*What's one thing God doesn't want you to do?
- \*How can a person know God?
- \*How has God shown you He loves you? Have a child read, aloud, Acts 4:18-20.

**Ask:** What have you seen and heard about God that was easy to talk about? What was difficult?

**Say:** Talking about what you've seen or heard about God is sharing your faith.

## *Choose Your Closing*

### **Option 1: In God We Trust**

(For this activity, be sure to have one penny for each child)

Give each child a penny. Ask everyone to find "In God We Trust" stamped on the coin. Give each child an opportunity to tell everyone what they think those words mean. Challenge kids to give that penny to a friend at school and talk with that friend about what "In God We Trust" means.

Close with a prayer, asking God to help kids be willing to share their knowledge of Jesus with others.

### **Option 2: Without Being Weird**

(For this activity, you'll need a chalkboard and chalk or a large sheet of newsprint and a marker.)

**Say:** Often we don't talk about God because we're afraid people will make fun of us. Let's try to come up with some things you could say to your friends about God that wouldn't be too weird.

Have kids brainstorm one-liners about God that wouldn't seem weird to their friends. Some examples are: "God loves me"! "We did something really cool at church." or "I think prayer in school is a good idea." There may be disagreement on what's too weird, but let kids decide. Write the one-liners on a chalkboard or newsprint.

Close in prayer, asking God to help kids find ways to talk about Jesus with their friends.