Preschool–Grade 6

The Woman at the Well

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

Main point: Jesus loves everyone.
Bible passage: John 4. Read John 4:1–42 yourself before class.
Memory verse: "whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst" *John 4:14 (KJV)*.
The old word **whosoever** means anyone, **drinketh** means drinks, and **thirst** means be thirsty.
You need: a Bible, a chair or a bucket to be the well, an empty plastic cup or jug, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at John 4. Set the chair or bucket in the middle of the room.

1. Opening game: Come and See (5 minutes)

Walk around the room with the kids following you, like a line of ducks. Every few steps, stop and call, "Come and see!" and walk to a new spot. End at the "well" (the chair or bucket) and sit down around it. Say: "Today we will hear a true story about a woman who met Jesus at a well."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to John 4. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

Jesus walked a long, long way (John 4:3–4). *(Walk in place.)*
Jesus was tired. He sat on a well (4:6). *(Sit down and wipe your forehead.)*
A woman came to get water (4:7). *(Pretend to carry a jar on your shoulder.)*
Jesus asked her for a drink (4:7). *(Hold out the empty cup.)*
Jesus was kind to her. **Say it with me: "Jesus loves everyone!"**
Jesus said He could give her living water (4:10). *(Wiggle your fingers like flowing water.)*
His water lasts forever (4:14). *(Spread your arms out wide.)*
Jesus knew all about her (4:29). *(Point to your head.)*
Jesus told her He is the Christ, the Saviour God promised (4:25–26). *(Point up.)*
The woman left her waterpot, her water jar, and went into the city (4:28). *(Put the cup down and walk in place.)*
She said, "Come, see!" (4:29). *(Wave your arm: come here!)*
The people came to Jesus. Many believed (4:30, 4:39). *(Clap, clap, clap!)*
Say it with me: "Come and see Jesus!"

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3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. Where did Jesus sit? *(On a well, John 4:6)*
2. What did the woman come to get? *(Water, 4:7)*
3. What did she tell the people? *("Come, see," 4:29)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "Jesus said, 'whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst.' Whosoever means anyone. Jesus' living water is for anyone who comes to Him." Teach the motion: pretend to drink from a cup on "drinketh," point up on "that I shall give him," and shake your head no on "never thirst." Say the verse with the motion three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "John 4:14" and clap three times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "Jesus loves you! Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (Acts 2:4)."
Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

6. Activity: Draw the Well (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw a round well and a water jar beside it. Then they color blue water. While they color, ask: "Who sat on the well? Who does Jesus love?"

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, Jesus, for loving everyone.
Thank You for loving me.
Help me tell my friends about You. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: keep the story moving and let a child hold the empty cup. If they get wiggly, play "Come and See" one more time. Leave out the part about the woman's husbands (John 4:16–18); "Jesus knew all about her" is enough at this age. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

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