

WEEK 5: Peter

Big Idea: Jesus gives us a job to do.

HANGOUT

1. Reinforce the Big Idea by adding some fun actions to the words:
 - Jesus (stretch your arms out wide)
 - gives (pretend to give a gift)
 - us (point to each person)
 - a (make your arms point over your head like a mountain)
 - job (flex your muscles)
 - to (hold up two fingers)
 - do! (give two thumbs up)

Finish off by giving everyone a high five! Repeat until the children are familiar with it.

2. Discuss:
 - What's the job Jesus gives us to do? (tell others about him)
 - Have you ever told anyone about Jesus? If so, who was it?

HEAR

3. Explain that in today's story God rescues Peter from prison. Usually, people go to prison when they break the law, but Peter did not do anything wrong! He was doing the job that Jesus gave him. Peter told everyone about Jesus! Let the children know that God sent somebody special to help Peter get out of prison. Ask them to listen carefully to find out who it is!
4. Read about Peter's amazing escape from prison (from Acts 12:4-17) in a children's Bible.
5. Discuss:
 - Who did God send to rescue Peter? (an angel!)
 - What happened to Peter's chains? (they fell off)
 - What's your favourite part of the story? Why?

HUDDLE

6. Use play dough to make heart shapes with the children.
7. As they make hearts, discuss why they love Jesus. Describe why you love Jesus, too!
8. Emphasize that it's so wonderful we can share about our love for Jesus with our friends.
9. Give one of the children a play-dough heart you've made and say, "Jesus loves you!" Encourage them to pass it on to another child with the same message. Continue until everyone has received the heart.
10. Pray together and thank Jesus for loving all of the children (name each one if possible). Ask Jesus to help everyone share his love with others.

