

I'm Trying to Be Like Jesus Song Story

Activity Instructions:

1. Begin by telling the primary that you have a special story to share with them. Introduce the characters of this story and explain that the story is about a child learning to be like Jesus.
2. Introduce the story by reading the first paragraph. After reading this, introduce the first two phrases of "I'm Trying to Be Like Jesus."
3. In Senior primary, you may invite children to take turns reading short paragraphs.
4. Continue reading the story and learning the lines of the song.
5. At the conclusion of the story, you should have introduced/taught the entire first verse.
6. Sing through the entire song again before the end of primary!

Extension Ideas:

- Create a story board for the story with pictures. Invite "readers" to read different parts of the story.
- After reading the story, ask questions about the message of the story. Discuss different ways that children can try to be like Jesus. Write down the ideas on paper and post them on the wall for children to remember.
- Print out each paragraph of the story and tape these papers to the wall. Have children put the story in order.
- Give each child a piece of paper and crayons and invite them to draw the story.

I'm Trying to Be Like Jesus Song Story

This is a story about a little boy named Riley who went to Kindergarten. Riley loved to go to kindergarten and play with the fun toys. He learned to write his name, count to 100, and tie his shoes all by himself.

One day, Riley noticed that some older boys were teasing a boy in his class. These boys said some unkind things to his friends. Riley wasn't sure what to do. He didn't think it was fair for these boys to be mean, but he didn't want them to say mean things to him too.

***Teach the first two phrases of the song. "I'm Trying to Be Like Jesus; I'm following in His ways."**

That night, Riley went home to talk to his mom. He told his mom that the boys were saying unkind words to his friend. "Mom, what should I do? When they say those mean words, I just want to push them or tell them to go away."

"I'm so sorry they are being unkind to your friend. Sometimes people do and say things that hurt our feelings." Mom said. "It's important to remember that saying unkind words or using our bodies to hurt others is not a good way to help."

***Teach the next line of the song. "I'm trying to love as He did in all that I do and say."**

Riley still wasn't quite sure what to do, but he remembered the song he started learning in singing time the week before. "I'm trying to be like Jesus" he whispered to himself on the way to school.

At play time, Riley noticed that the older boys were calling his friend unkind names again. He felt his face getting warm and scrunched up his fists.

***Teach the next two phrases of the song. "At times I am tempted to make a wrong choice, but I try to listen as the still small voice whispers,"**

But then he remembered what his mom talked about the night before. How could he be like Jesus? Riley decided to be brave.

***Teach the entire chorus. "Love one another as Jesus loves you. Try to show kindness in all that you do. Be gentle and loving in deed and in thought. For these are the things Jesus taught."**

Riley took a deep breath, walked over to the boys, and said calmly, "Hey, this boy is my friend. He is always nice to me and I don't think it's very kind to say those mean things to him." The boys nodded their heads and apologized. Riley was grateful for his courage to be like Jesus, even when it's hard.