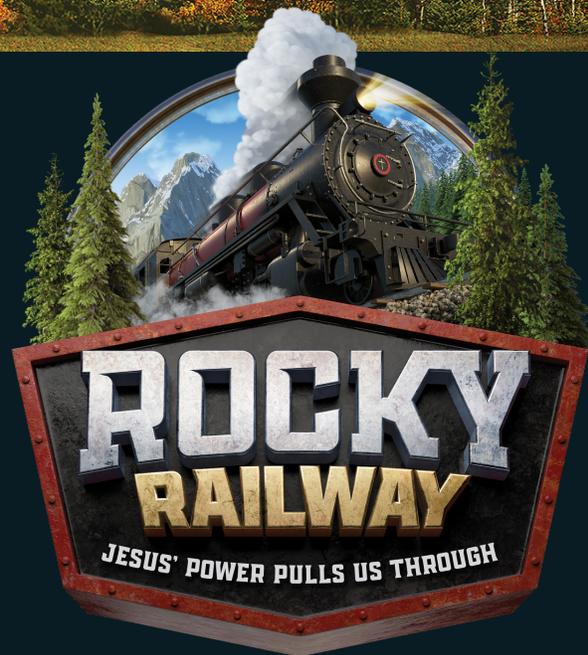




Preschool
Exploration Stations
DAY 5



BIBLE POINT

Day 5

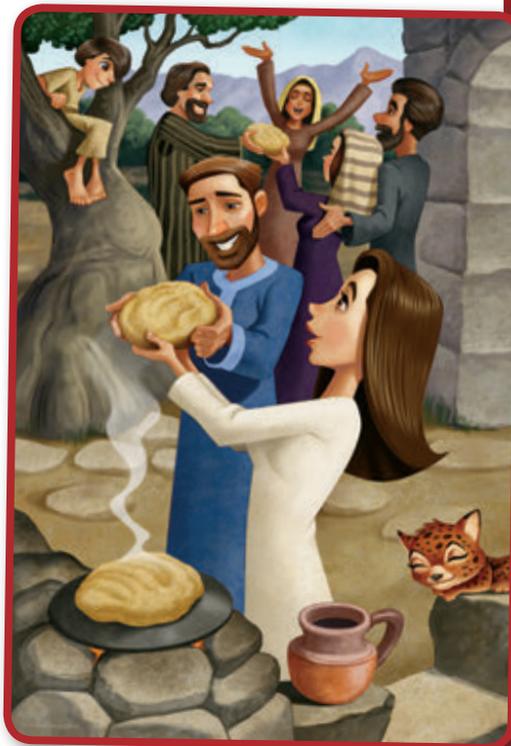
Jesus' power helps us be good friends.

Bible Story: The church is united. (Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35)

Bible Verse: “Love each other in the same way I have loved you.”
(John 15:12)

Consider This...

- ▶ The book of Psalms mentions prayer more than 60 times—more than any other section of Scripture. The book of Acts comes in second, recording the importance and occurrence of prayer about 34 times. Clearly, the early church relied on prayer for hope, communion, healing, provision, and unity. Communication with God became a critical part of their community.
- ▶ Scholars believe that the early church probably met in Solomon's Colonnade, a porch along the inner side of the Temple wall.
- ▶ Many of the first Christians came from Jewish backgrounds, meaning they probably already followed God's command to give to the poor (Deuteronomy 15:4-8). Uniting and caring for others may have been a natural connection with their faith family.
- ▶ Acts 4:33 records the great power with which the apostles testified about Jesus' resurrection. It's likely this refers to a boldness given by the Holy Spirit but might also indicate that their life of unity and joy became a powerful witness to those around them.
- ▶ While Acts shines a light on the rapid growth of the early church (Acts 2:47; 4:4; 6:7; 9:31; 21:20), in a city of around 200,000 people, they still represented a minority of the population. This small band of believers needed to stick together and support each other!



Why It Matters...

Is your child like or unlike the early Christians? Why? Do they have a heart to serve, share, and bear one another's heartaches? What would happen if kids today had the same spirit of that first faith family? What would the church of tomorrow look like? You have the opportunity to create in your child a passion for sharing Jesus' love in powerful and practical ways! With Jesus' power, we can transform tomorrow's faith community into an environment of belonging, sharing, caring, and community. Today, help your child discover how Jesus' power can help them be faithful friends who truly care for each other.

DAY 5

Welcome to **Exploration Stations** at *Rocky Railway*! Here your preschooler will use their imagination to bring the railway to life. As kids play, they will reinforce their Bible learning in a fun and memorable way. All suggested activities can be modified to meet your at home materials. A few "Alternate Track" ideas are included below for this purpose. *All aboard to Exploration Stations!*

SUPPLY STATION

- ▶ modeling dough or play dough
- ▶ people-shaped cookie cutters

OPTION % Play Clay Friends

Today we are talking about how **Jesus' power helps us be good friends.** (*Trust Jesus!*) Let's use our dough to make some special friends.

Chug it Out!

Use cookie cutters to make a variety of dough people. Make your new people talk and play together just like good friends do.

Alternate Track

Create your own people without cookie cutters by shaping the dough. Add other materials to your dough like yarn or pipe cleaners to make your people even more creative. If you don't have play dough, find any toy people and make them play together like good friends.



SUPPLY STATION

- ▶ one piece of construction paper or cardstock cut into the shape of a wheel
- ▶ blank index card
- ▶ hole punch
- ▶ sand pail and shovel
- ▶ light scoopable material such as rice, beans, pompoms, or crumpled/torn paper
- ▶ empty container or box
- ▶ sidewalk chalk

OPTION 2: Little Locomotive

We can be a good friend to others every day. Let's play in our Little Kids Depot one last time and remember that **Jesus' power helps us be good friends.** (*Trust Jesus!*)

Chug it Out!

Invite your child to pretend he or she is driving a train engine along the track with their precut wheel. If desired, draw a track outside with sidewalk chalk or create a designated track path in your home. Kids can pretend to shovel coal (light scoopable material) out of the coal car (empty container) into the bucket using a shovel. They can also pretend to be a conductor punching tickets with the index card. Use your imagination to bring Rocky Railway to life. All aboard the Little Locomotive!

Alternate Track

Cut the bottom out of a large empty box and allow your little conductor to wear it as a train. Decorate the box with markers or paints. Don't have a sand pail or shovel? Use any household container and a spoon.

