

Interactive Group Activities

by Carol Williams

Sermon Title: "That's Not Fair!"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 20: 1-16

VINEYARD WORKERS: Children can play this little game most like hide and go seek. The first child will seek for 1 child; then those 2 children will seek for another and then those 3 children will seek together for a 4th child. Each child when found will be given a very small treat (such as an M&M, etc), but the first child found will get 3, the next child will get 2 and then next child found will get 1 treat!!!! Just let the children have fun playing the vineyard workers as time allows.

THAT'S NOT FAIR CHAIRS: This will play like musical chairs while children walk around some chairs until the music stops. There will be one chair less than the number of children playing and keep removing one chair after each stopping part. Children will all say, THAT'S NOT FAIR CHAIR and then start the music up once again to continue playing until just one child is left standing with a chair and all the other children will say, THAT'S NOT FAIR! Then tell today's Bible story to the children as they sit in the chairs in a circle today.

CHALK TALK: Children can be given different colors of chalk and draw figures and words from today's lesson on the chalk board as they tell parts of today's lesson.

REWARD RELAY: Let children divide into teams and take turns running to a box or bowl after they have done what the teacher tells them to do, such as jump to the wall, skip around the room, hop to the chair, etc. Each child and team can get a REWARD after their relay.

SKIT TIME: Let the children choose a part to play from today's story. One child or the teacher can be the narrator and read or tell the story again while children act out the parts in a skit. Make sure to video tape if possible so children can watch their skit at a later time.

CROSS CUTTINGS: Provide children with crafts materials to cut out a cross and add stickers, glitter, etc. Make little snips all around the cross for decoration and use bright magic markers to write ALL HAVE SINNED AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD. Add a ribbon to the top of the cross and encourage children to give to someone special to them.

HAND PAINTING: Give children paint supplies to draw on each other's hands with ideas from today's story to add a picture and/or words such as LOVE, GRACE, or EVERLASTING LIFE, or THANK YOU GOD FOR BEING FAIR. Children could draw a cross or heart, etc.

REWARD STICKERS: Children can each decorate a piece of construction paper or a small booklet with REWARD STICKERS that can be purchased

inexpensively at any retail store with words such as GOOD JOB, or WELL DONE, or YOU ROCK, or KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, etc. After completing their booklets or piece of paper, children will hand their paper/booklet to the person to the right of themselves to encourage a friend in class.

SING A SONG: JESUS LOVES ME; GOD IS SO GOOD

SHARE A SNACK: Each child could be given a cookie to frost and a small "reward" to be placed on top, such as sprinkles or M&M's, etc!

Song: "Jesus Loves Me" by William B. Bradbury

[Words and Music](#) (pdf) 

[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track

Song: "God Is So Good" - Traditional

[Words and Music](#) (pdf) 

[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track

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About Carol Williams

Carol and her husband have served churches in Illinois, Minnesota, Mississippi, Michigan, and Indiana. Carol loves to work with children so you will find her teaching in Junior Church and children's Sunday School. She also has clowning ministry in which she is known as Bubbles tc (the clown).