Pre-School Lesson Plan
“Lord, increase my faith.” Luke 17:5

Goals of Lesson:
1. Children will learn what faith is.
2. Children will learn that Jesus can make a difference in our lives if we trust in him.

Secondary Goals:
1. Children will learn the letter “F” and the sound that it makes.
2. Children will learn who Saul is in the Bible.

Supplemental Activity Goal:
- Children will learn some of what priests and nuns do.

Supplies:
- Bible pictures from the story of Saul’s conversion,
- flashlight,
- supplies for the art project,
- letter “F” worksheet,
- props for things that start with “F.”
- Jesus Helps Us to See Project Supplies (See Below)
- Supplemental Activity supplies
  o What Does a Priest Do/What Does a Nun Do by Susan Heyboer O'Keefe,
  o a picture of each child,
  o scotch tape,
  o the Priest and Nun photo fun worksheet. (Attached)

Procedure:
1. Have the kids sit in front of you on the floor. Write the letter “F” on the board.
   a. Ask them what the letter is and then ask them what sound it makes. (Make the /f/ sound.)
   b. Can they think of anything that starts with that letter? As visuals, bring things from home that start with the letter “F” to show them the item as they name it. For example, a stuffed frog, a picture of a fox and your family, some fruit, flowers, fish, etc. Let them try to think of things first and then hold up your remaining items that they did not mention.
2. After you have mentioned all of the “F” objects, go back to the board and continue to write the word “Faith” after the letter “F.”
   a. Ask the children if they know what that spells. (It spells faith.)
   b. Faith starts with a letter “F” too! Ask the children if they know what faith is. Faith is trusting in God with your whole heart even though you cannot see Him. Have the
children memorize this definition by introducing hand motions that go along with the words. For example: When you say “Faith,” put your hands together in prayer. When you say “God,” point both fingers up to heaven with arms extended. When you say “whole heart,” put your hands over your heart. When you say “cannot see,” put your hands over your eyes. Practice this definition with hand motions about three times. You can repeat this exercise periodically throughout your lesson. Emphasize to the children that we want to have faith in God because He will always show us the right way in life.

3. Next, read the story of Saul’s Conversion.
   a. You can use one of the following websites to obtain the story that is at a younger person’s level.
      - http://www.childrenstory.info/biblestoryforchild/chdbblsaulseesthelight.html
   b. It would be a good idea to print out some pictures that correlate to the story. You can hold them up to the children as you read them the story. To prepare them for the story, you could tell the children: “This is a story about a man named Saul. At the beginning of the story he does not have Faith in Jesus, but let’s see what happens in the end.”

4. After you finish reading, ask the following questions:
   • Did Saul have faith in Jesus at the beginning of the story? No. He wanted to get rid of Jesus’ people.
   • What did Jesus do to Saul when he was riding his horse one day to change Saul’s mind? Jesus shone a bright light that blinded Saul for three days.
   • Did Saul get his sight back? Yes, when he believed in Jesus.
   • Did Saul have faith in Jesus at the end of the story? Yes. He wanted to teach people about following Jesus and His ways.

5. Next play a game that enforces the idea of following God. (The learning game with the flashlight came from the book: 101 Great Games for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers: Active Bible-Based Fun for Christian Education. Written by Jolene L. Roehlkepartain; Copyright 2004 by Abingdon Press)
   a. You will need a flashlight for this activity.
   b. Try to have the kids spread throughout the room.
   c. Dim the lights to make it a partially dark in the room. Try not to have it pitch black for the kids’ safety.
   d. Say to kids, “In the Bible, God wanted a man named Saul to follow Him. So Jesus shone a bright light on Saul and called out his name. We are going to play a game. We are going to walk around the room with the room kind of dark. When I shine the light on you, say your name and sit down. When you sit down, close your eyes and say ‘Who me? I can’t see!’ (Practice saying this line with the kids.)
   e. The kids that are seated can peek for the rest of the game until everyone is sitting.
   f. Then everyone will close their eyes again until you hear me say ‘Now you can see! Now you can walk! Stand up and follow me!’” Have the kids stand up and open their eyes and get into a line behind you.
g. Lead them around the room and say “Saul followed God, just like you are following me. It is good when we all follow God!”

h. Ask the children if they felt like Saul when he was blinded, when they had to sit on the floor with their eyes closed. Then God opened Saul’s eyes and you all opened your eyes! Saul followed Christ from there on out. Now you have to follow Jesus too!

**Jesus Helps Us to See: Art Project**
The kids will be making lighthouses. Jesus is our light. He helps us to have faith when we feel like we are in the darkness; just like a lighthouse shows boats the way when it is dark and stormy.

**Supplies:**
- 18 oz. red plastic cups in a circular shape,
- 9 oz. clear plastic cups,
- white plastic tape,
- battery operated tea light,
- black sharpie marker,
- scotch tape

**Procedure:**

a. **Step 1.** Tape three pieces of white plastic tape around the red cup to make the base of the lighthouse. The white tape will be the white stripes on the base of the lighthouse.

b. **Step 2.** Turn the red cup upside down and put the tea light on top of the red cup’s bottom. You can turn the tea light on.

c. **Step 3.** Put the clear cup over the top of the tea light. The clear cup should overlap and seal over the bottom of the red cup. If it does not stay tightly together, you may put a strip of scotch tape to hold it together.

d. **Step 4.** Use the black sharpie marker to draw a window and door on the base of the lighthouse.

e. **Step 5.** Enjoy your lighthouse!

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6. Practice your Faith memory definition again with hand motions.

7. Have the children work on a letter “F” worksheet. The worksheet will have objects to color that start with the letter “F.” It also has room to practice writing the letter “F.”

8. You can end the class with the song, “This Little Light of Mine.”

**Supplemental Activity for Vocations week**

1. Each child will need to bring in a picture of themselves to put in the head space of the nun or priest.

2. Read the book called *What Does a Priest Do?* And on the reverse cover *What Does a Nun Do?* Written by Susan Heyboer O’Keefe (can be purchased online here:...
It is a really cute and basic book that shows with minimal words and cute illustrations what a priest and nun do.

3. Afterwards have the kids color the priest or nun photo fun page. Cut out the head space ahead of time or leave the space there to tape the photo of the child on top. The kids can tape the picture in place.

4. They will have fun seeing themselves as a nun or priest!

Lesson written by Mrs. Heather Borchers, parishioner of St. Remy parish in Russia, OH and stay-at-home mother of three children, ages 5 and under. Heather holds a Masters in Education from Wright State University in Dayton, OH.

Please feel free to adapt all content to fit your classroom or homeschooling needs but if distributing please give credit both to the Vocation Office of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and to Heather Borchers.
Pre-School Lesson Plan: Supplemental Activity

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For this activity, ask children to bring in a photo of themselves. Then make copies of the priest page for the boys and the consecrated religious page for the girls. Have the children color the picture, all except the face. Then, either cut out the area for the face or cut out the child’s face from the picture they bring in. Tape or glue the paper and photo together so that the child’s face is in the place of the face in the image to allow the children to see themselves as a priest or consecrated religious.

www.edupics.com (adapted for this exercise)