

**BIBLE STORY**

**Peter Says That Jesus  
Is the Messiah**  
Matthew 16:13-20

**MEMORY VERSE**

**"Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is  
the one who started this journey  
of faith. And he is the one who  
completes the journey of faith."**  
Hebrews 12:2a, NIV

**BOTTOM LINE**

**You can TALK with others  
about what you believe.**

**FOCUS!**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Focus Cards" (Activity Pages)

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- o Shuffle two sets of "Focus Cards" together.
- o Lay cards face down on the floor in a grid pattern.
- Tell kids they are going to play a matching game and it is important to be focused to win.
- Explain that each card is a picture from the Bible story. The pictures could answer Jesus' question, "Who do people say I am?"
- Guide kids to play a game:
  - o Kids take turns flipping over two cards and trying to find a match.
  - o To keep things moving quickly, kids get only one turn, even if they find a match.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Great job focusing on the cards to find all the matches. In our story, people thought Jesus was John the Baptist, Elijah, or a prophet. Often, when people talk about Jesus today, they say He is a healer, He feeds the poor, He is our Shepherd, or He's a teacher. But we are missing a card for Peter's response to Jesus. When Jesus asked Peter, Who do you say I am? Peter said, You are the Messiah. You are the Son of the living God (Matthew 16:15-16 NIV). Peter recognized Jesus as God's Son. Peter recognized Jesus as the One sent by God to rescue all of us. And when Jesus asked Peter what he believed, Peter answered Him. You can be like Peter, too, and **you can TALK with others about what you believe.** The more you TALK about what you believe, the more you can learn from others and the more others can learn from you."

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## PRAYER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Focus Notebooks (with 3D glasses) OR index cards;  
markers

### WHAT YOU DO:

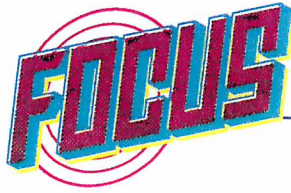
- Ask kids to write on the top of page 11, "I believe . . ."
- Encourage kids to finish the sentence with what they believe about Jesus.
  - Prompt them by asking what adjectives would you use to describe Jesus or what stories they know about Jesus.
  - Give kids the freedom to use words or drawings to finish the sentence.
- If time allows, challenge kids to write (in their Focus Notebook) questions they may have about Jesus.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Maybe you have questions about what you believe or maybe, like Peter, you believe Jesus is your Messiah and you have asked Him to be your rescuer, and you know you are connected with God now and forever. It is important to remember as you learn more that **you can TALK with others about what you believe.** Let's pray.

"God, thank You so much for this story about Jesus. Jesus encouraged Peter to talk about what he believed, and You want us to talk about You, too. We know when we talk with others, we can get a closer look and discover who You are and all that Jesus did for us. We know, like Peter, we are not perfect. There are times we don't do what You want and we don't listen to You. We are so thankful You sent us Jesus to be our rescuer. And when we believe in Jesus, we can be with You now and forever! Thank You for loving us so much You want to be with us. Amen!"





## DAY 3 CRAFT

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Paper towel and/or toilet paper rolls; paper plates; scissors; duct tape; marbles (or small pebbles or balls), and any other “found” objects around your home

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Set out all supplies.
- Tell kids to design and build a series of towers, ramps, and loops that marbles can roll through.
- Encourage them to create the most unique track possible for their marbles.
- Let kids test their designs to see if marbles can make their way through the entire thing.
- Allow kids to play with their creations.



**WHAT YOU SAY:**

“Life can be full of twists and turns like your marble tower. However, God is always with you. Life is hard for everyone, and telling others about what we believe can point them toward God during those hard times—and during the good times as well! What are some ways you can tell others about what you believe? (Pause for responses.) **[Bottom Line] You can TALK with others about what you believe.**”

