Plan

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| Supplies  Basic Supplies: CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible | Deep Blue Bible Storybook | Deep Blue Adventure Video | Pencils | Crayons | Markers | Scissors | Glue | Paper | Blocks or small boxes  Supplies for Extra At-Home Activity: Extra Activity Page | Gum drop candies | Toothpicks |

Before You Teach

Jesus liked to teach people by telling stories. These stories are called parables, and they help people understand important things. The story of the two houses teaches us about good foundations. A building needs a solid foundation to be strong. The house built on bedrock was strong, but the house built on sand wasn’t strong and fell during the storm. People need good foundations to be strong too. Jesus and his teachings can help us build a strong foundation for our life.

Dot-to-Dot (Puzzle)

Before class: Make a copy of the dot-to-dot for each person.

SAY: Jesus told a story about two builders who built their houses in special places. Connect the dot-to-dots on your coloring page.

* Allow the children time to work their puzzles

ASK: Where did they build the two houses? (on a cliff or rock and on the sand) How strong do you think the two houses were?

* Allow the children time to color their pictures.

Build a House (Game)

Before class: Gather some blocks or small boxes.

ASK: What is the biggest object you have built?

SAY: Let’s build a house out of the blocks!

* Allow the children to build a house using the materials they have and following the supervisor’s motions.
* When they are finished, the supervisor can report to you what they have done.

SAY: You have built a great house.

ASK: What kind of foundation did you use? Do you think your house is strong enough to stand in a storm?

Read the Bible Story

* Find Matthew 7:24-27 in your Bible or, read the story “The Two Houses” from the Deep Blue Bible Storybook (pp. 234–235).

ASK: Who was wise? (the builder who built his house on a good foundation) What makes a good foundation? Can you think of other things that have foundations besides buildings? What makes sand a bad foundation to build on?

See the Bible Story

SAY: Caleb is building a sand castle on the beach, and Jack steps in to give him some good advice.

* Watch today’s episode here: <https://tinyurl.com/twohousesjune14>

ASK: Who helps you make good choices?

Sacred Conversations

ASK: What is your favorite teaching of Jesus? What is the hardest teaching of Jesus for you to follow?

Blessing

SAY: Before we end today, we are going to share a blessing with each other. Blessings show how special you are to God.

* Go around the room and say the blessing to each child.

SAY: (Person’s name), God loves you. God remembers you. God will always be with you.

PRAY: Dear God, thank you for teaching us how important it is to make good choices. Help us always to rely on you to help us know what is right; in Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Building a Good Foundation (Extra At-Home Activity)

Before class: Print a copy of the extra activity page.

SAY: Your challenge today is to build a tower using gumdrops and toothpicks. Your design needs to be a strong foundation that will hold a book on top of it for 10 seconds.

* Follow the directions on “Building a Good Foundation.”
* Encourage your whole family to work together.

SAY: As a group, gather the materials needed, read the rules for building, and follow the directions given on building a tower.

ASK: Did you learn some important facts about foundations as you built your tower? When you started, did you think toothpicks and gumdrops could ever hold a book?