



BIG IDEA

Jesus wants us to be all in.

GOD STORY

Jesus Tells His Disciples How to Follow Him
(Matthew 16:21–27)

KEY VERSE

[Jesus] said, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must say no to themselves. They must pick up their cross and follow me.” (Matthew 16:24b, NIRV)

1 | Conversation Starter

INSTRUCTIONS

- To lead into today’s lesson, ask: Have you ever heard the phrase “I’m all in”? What do you think it means?
- Clarify that being all in means being fully committed and 100% willing to do something (e.g., “Who thinks we should go to an amusement park this weekend? Me! I’m all in!”).
- Chat about things that the kids are all in for.
- Introduce today’s Big Idea: **Jesus wants us to be all in.**

2 | Watch

SUPPLIES

- Media player

INSTRUCTIONS

- Watch this week’s video from the Now Playing Kids playlist on the One Story YouTube channel.

3 | Discuss

INSTRUCTIONS

- Review the video teaching together:
 - What was the Life Story about today?
 - What was the God Story about?
 - How did these stories connect with the Big Idea (**Jesus wants us to be all in**)?
 - What does it mean when we say we’re all in for Jesus? (We’re fully committed to following him)

4 | Activity

SUPPLIES

- Key Verse sign
- Paper plates
- Cupcake liners
- String
- Big Idea labels
- Drawing supplies
- Glue
- Tape

TIP

- It may be helpful to guide the kids to consider what it takes to be all in when training for a sport, then compare it to being all in for Jesus.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Review the Key Verse together.
- Discuss:
 - What do you think Matthew 16:24 means?
 - How could we show that we're all in for Jesus, or fully committed to following him? Is it something we wear? Something we say or do?
 - Do you know someone who's all in for Jesus? Who is it? How do they show it?
- Give each person a paper plate, three cupcake liners, a length of string, and a Big Idea label.
- Place the other supplies where everyone can share them.
- Direct the kids to stick their label in the middle of their plate.
- Guide them to flatten their cupcake liners and write one of the following locations along the edge of each liner: At School; At Home • At ____ [fill in the blank describing a place where they spend a lot of time]
- Ask everyone to draw or write about examples of how they can be all in for Jesus at each of these places.
- When they're done, guide them to glue the liners onto their plate.

- Loop and tape the string on the back of each plate to create a handle.
- Encourage the kids to decorate their crafts.



5 | Pray

SUPPLIES

- Crafts from previous activity

INSTRUCTIONS

- Invite the kids to share what's drawn or written on their crafts about being all in.
- Discuss:
 - When is it difficult to be all in for Jesus?
 - What helps you in these situations?
- Pray for one another based on what the kids discussed and shared.