**Ideas for young children:**

**House Built Upon the Rock (Firm foundation)**

* Give each child a very small amount of modeling clay or playdough. Have each child (or take turns to build one; create a “foundation” on the table (or a plastic tray if you are working on the floor).
* Once the foundation is built, give each child a small paper cup to press into the dough.
* Each child can pretend to be the storm by blowing the cup. The cup shouldn’t blow over.
* Next remove the foundation, have each child blow on the cup and watch the cup blow over or away.
* Follow up: Talk about how the firm foundation is our good thinking. We are secure and safe with a solid, firm foundation of God-like qualities.

**Hang Up on Error:**

* Use a real telephone (if you can find one) or a play telephone.
* Give simple situations like: You wake up in the morning and you don’t feel well. Do you listen or hang up?
* You want to help mommy sort the laundry. Do you listen or hang up?
* Do you share your book with your friend?
* Are you kind to the child your don’t like very well?

**The Jar Game:**

* Find a large jar where the mouth is big enough to put a child’s hand in.
* Children take turns reaching into the jar, pulling out pieces of paper and following the directions on the paper.
* Activities could include: answering questions about favorite Bible stories, reciting the Ten Commandments, Beatitudes, the Lord’s Prayer, etc.
* After answering the Bible question, there can be an active direction to follow like “clap your hands three times; jump on one foot; turn around 2 times, etc.”

**Tree of Life Game:**

* make a cardboard tree, called the “Tree of Life.” Put apples or another fruit on it.
* Each student picks an apple off the tree and does what it says on the apple.
* For example: tell the first commandment; say the 2nd half of a beatitude; Tell what happened to Noah?

**Five G’s:**

Trace around each child’s hand on a piece of paper.

Write the 5 G’s – one on each finger (God, Good, Guides, Guards, Governs)

**Preschool Concepts to build on:**

(Christian Science and Bible concepts form which preschool children can begin to learn)

* opposites
* shepherds
* fisherman
* angel thoughts
* transparency
* spectrum: image
* parables (e.g., the good Samaritan)
* light vs. darkness
* mixed thinking
* sunny/ cloudy thinking

**Play the Seed Game:**

* have the children cup their hands out in front of them. Pretend to plant seed in each child’s hands.
* give one child a good thought and one a weed seed, go around the circle with each child.
* Talk about what will grow. For instance, if they plant a rose, what will grow? If they plant a weed, what will grow?
* What happens if they plant a hateful thought? A loving thought?

**Teaching by Symbols:**

* Bring a tote bag each week with a special treasure in it. One that might be given to the children at the end of the session.
* A fully bloomed flower and a bud: talk about unfoldment and how everything needed is already within the bud
* A seashell and a handful of sand – so you can talk about what it takes to make a seashell
* A tiny prism: talk about the seven colors that all equal one white light
* A menorah cut out of paper, or a real one you can order

**Make books:**

* out of construction paper to take home after studying: Ten Commandments; the Beatitudes; a hymn; the Lord’s Prayer