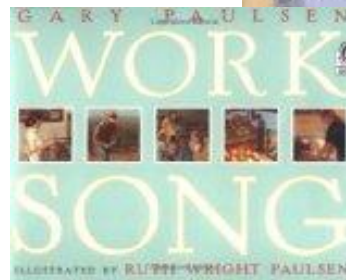
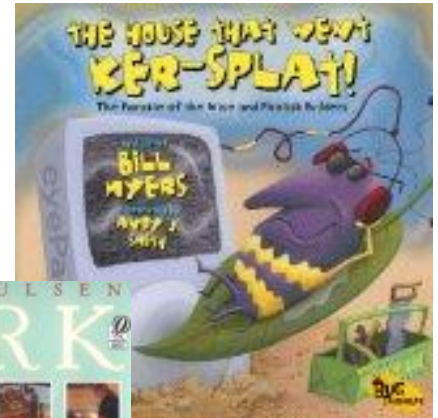


## Preschool Post Lesson II



[www.PreschoolPost.com](http://www.PreschoolPost.com)



**Letter:** J

**Preschool Theme:** Community Helpers

**Bible Theme:** Building on the Rock. In this lesson children will learn the importance of a strong foundation in Christ.

### **Morning Circle:**

Introduce the letter "J." [Show the children the letter "j"](#) and pronounce it. Are there any children with "J" names in the room? Repeat their names aloud as a group. Ask if the children know any people from Bible times who had "J" names. [Help them out](#) by mentioning "Jonah," "John the Baptist," "Job," "Jacob," "Joseph," and others. If the children missed the most obvious one, help them out by giving some clues: "Who made many sick people well in the Bible?" "Who walked on water?" "Who came back to life again after three days?" Jesus!

When Jesus walked the earth with His disciples, he did lots of work. He was very busy teaching, being a great physician or doctor, being a minister, and traveling from one city to another. He did lots of jobs. He also knew how to be a carpenter. He grew up in a house where his father was a carpenter. That meant He learned the hard work of measuring and cutting wood. People probably used His and his family's skills to make them furniture and houses.

Spend some time talking with the children about the jobs people did in Bible times: fishing, tentmaking, farming, raising animals, making perfumes and dyes, etc. Give the children a chance to discuss the jobs their parents do. What are some other jobs we see everyday in our community?

**Read:** [Work Song](#), by Gary and Ruth Wright Paulsen. Enjoy this eloquent picture book showing some very familiar community workers.

### Music & Movement:

1. Say the following [fingerplay](#) with the children:

"The Carpenter," author unknown:

The carpenter's hammer goes bang, bang, bang,  
and his saw goes see, saw, see.  
He planes and he measures  
and he hammers and he saws,  
while he builds a house for me.

2. Play Ella Jenkins' song [I Got a Job](#). Enjoy singing about lots of familiar jobs with this classic folksinger.

**Snack:** Tell the children that one important job in our community is that of Baker. Talk about some of the important and tasty foods a baker makes. Then enjoy some freshly-baked muffins from your local baker! You might even like to sing a song about the [muffin man](#) while you eat your treats!

### Centers:

1. Dress up corner. Provide the children with lots of [costumes and props](#) from various workers in your community. Include stethoscopes, lab coats, hardhats, safety goggles, work boots, high heels, tool belts, calculators, old cell phones, old name badges or play police badges, fireman's hats, books, pencils, "post-it" type note pads, play

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cash registers, "exam" tables, chairs, shelves, play grocery items, play shopping trolleys, etc., etc. Watch the children's imaginations blossom as they explore jobs that interest them.

2. Carpenter's math center. Set up a table full of the [tools](#) of a carpenter (like toy saws, planes, levels, hammers, etc.) Include a few rulers, tape measures, some pencils, and paper with "blueprints" on them. Also provide some various sizes of wood planks and blocks. Ask the children to "measure" and record the sizes of the wood pieces, and to "build" something out of the available blocks and bits and pieces. You might even like to set up a scale or other weighing device to add yet another dimension of fun.

3. Rush hour center. If you have the available space, set up an area to be a busy road where workers drive or ride busses to their jobs. Put up "traffic signs" (you can easily make these out of poster board) and have some children direct traffic. Provide wagons, tricycles, [scooters](#), and other ride-on toys and let the children get a move on!

## **Art Activity:**

### Community Collage:

Let the children gather pictures of people doing various jobs from magazines, snapshots of their parents at their jobs, drawings that the children have made, etc. Using a





very long sheet of butcher paper or a bulletin board, let the children work together to create a mural depicting jobs in their community. Add other items to the collage that are related to occupations, such as food order tickets, ticket stubs, receipts and invoices, paper clips, tongue depressors, dog tags (military items,) sales tags, and computer disks. Make the mural a real showcase for your community workers room!

### **Bible Storytime:**

**Read:** [The House That Went Ker-Splat! The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders](#), by Bill Myers and Andy J. Smith.

### **Bible Verse Bracelets:**

"Without the help of the LORD, it is useless to build a home or to guard a city." [Psalm 127:1 \(CEV\)](#)

(Alternate or additional verse: Matthew 7:24-25 "Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock. Rain poured down, rivers flooded, and winds beat against that house. But it did not fall, because it was built on solid rock." (CEV)

Explain to the children that, no matter what job we try to do, we should always let Him be our helper and our guide. Being a builder, a police officer, a cook, a teacher, or even a student without letting Jesus be the reason for our work, is like trying to build a house on sinking sand. If we try to do a job just for our own benefit or our own good, without relying on Jesus or wanting to do what He wants us to



do, then our jobs do not bring Him glory, and we will fail. But if we let God be the boss of our lives, and let Him help us in our daily work, then our work will glorify Him and he will help us succeed. We should build our houses on the Rock, this means to live our lives for Jesus.

### **Bible Song:**

[The Wise Man Build His House Upon the Rock,](#)" from the "WonderKids Sing 100 Bible Songs" CD.

### **Additional Activity:**

Take a field trip to a bakery, an artist's studio, a radio station, or other professional workplace and show the children how those jobs are done.

Another idea is to ask some of the children's parents to come talk about the job they do, and bring in some items to share with the children.

### **Optional Resources:**

[Letter J for Jesus Handwriting Worksheet](#)

[Letter J for Jobs Handwriting Worksheet](#)

### **Helpful Links:**

[Community Helper Printables on Preschool Mom](#)



**Notes:**

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