

WEEK

ONE

4-5's | W1

Today's Suggested Schedule—April 2026, Week 1

Today's Bible Story: Easter • Matthew 26:31-32, 36, 47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

Jesus is alive.

Key Question: Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse: "I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Find Jesus

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Memory Verse with Motions

1, 2, 3 Hopscotch

Jesus Is Alive!

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

*Allergy Alert



Bible Story

Easter • Matthew 26:31-32, 36, 47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

Jesus is alive.

Key Question

Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse

"I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

5 min

Find Jesus | Made to Play *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

👤 Party hats	3
👤 Toy Jesus figure	1



EveryChild Tips

- Move the hats very slowly so all children can track the movement.
- For children who cannot point, ask them to look at the hat they choose, and you can confirm their choice verbally.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Gather children around a table. *Optional:* Copy "Find Jesus" on cardstock and cut one per Small Group.

During the Activity: Place three party hats upside down on the table. Show the children the Jesus figurine and then hide it under one of the hats. Mix the hats around and ask the children to guess which hat Jesus is under. Let a child point to a hat, then lift it to see if they are right. Celebrate together when Jesus is found.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come and play a fun game with me! We're going to play a looking game with these party hats. It's a very special game because we are going to look for Jesus!"

During the Activity: "I have three party hats. (Show hats.) And I have our friend, Jesus! (Show figurine.) I'm going to hide Jesus under one of these hats. Watch carefully! (Hide Jesus and shuffle the hats.) Okay, where is Jesus? Who has a guess? [Child's name], which hat do you think Jesus is under? (Let child point.) Let's see ... (Lift hat.) You found Him! Hip, hip, hooray! Jesus is here! Let's play again!" (Repeat, allowing different children to guess.)

After the Activity: "You are all such great finders! In our story today, some of Jesus' friends went to find Him, but He was gone! But don't worry, it's a happy story! Let's go find out what happened."




30 min


Groups

5 min

Memory Verse with Motions | Made to Move

What You Need

 "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF Several

 Cardstock Several



EveryChild Tips

- Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.
- Set out the picture cutouts made from the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF for children to hold up or point to as an alternative to saying or repeating the verse out loud.

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.

During the Activity: Teach the Memory Verse motions. Invite the children to do them with you several times.

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come stand with me! Let's learn our brand-new Memory Verse. It's what Jesus told His friends. It goes like this: 'I (*point up*) have called you (*point to others*) friends,' (*hook index fingers twice*) John 15:15." (*Open hands like a book.*)




During the Activity: "Now, let's learn the motions! The first part says, 'I.' Everyone, point up. (*Point up.*) Great! The next part says, 'have called you.' Now, point to others. (*Point to others.*) Good job! And the last part says, 'friends.' Let's hook our pointer fingers together, like this. (*Hook index fingers twice.*) Awesome! Let's put it all together. Ready? 'I (*point up*) have called you (*point to others*) friends.' (*Hook index fingers twice.*) John 15:15. (*Open hands like a book.*) Let's do it again!" (*Repeat several times.*)

After the Activity: "Wow! Jesus calls us His friends. That's because **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever? **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"**

5 min

1, 2, 3 Hopscotch | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

 "1,2,3 Hopscotch" Activity Page	2
 Cardstock	1
 Painter's tape	1



EveryChild Tips

- For a version with less movement, set this activity up on a table. Use a toy to move from number to number and shout, "Jesus is alive!"

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "1,2,3 Hopscotch" on cardstock, two sets per Small Group. Arrange and tape the pages to the floor in a simple hopscotch pattern (1, 2, 3, Jesus).

During the Activity: Encourage children to take turns hopping on the numbers, counting as they go. When they land on the picture of Jesus, everyone shouts, "Jesus is alive!"

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's play a hopping game! Come stand by me."

During the Activity: "We're going to play hopscotch! I want you to hop on each number and say it out loud. Ready? One ... two... three! And when you get to the last picture, it's Jesus! When you land on Jesus, we are all going to shout, 'Jesus is alive!' [Child's name], you go first! (Guide the child through the course.) One, two, three ... (Child lands on Jesus.) Everyone, shout! 'Jesus is alive!' Hip, hip, hooray!" (Continue until all children have had a turn.)








After the Activity: "All that hopping was fun! What do we shout when we see Jesus? (Pause for response.) That's right! Jesus is alive! And because He is, **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever?**[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

5 min

Jesus Is Alive! | Made to Create

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	"Jesus is Alive" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	clear plastic cups per child	2
	Crayons	Several
	Scissors	1
	Glue sticks	Several
	Permanent marker	1



Before the Activity: Copy "Jesus is Alive" on copy paper and cut, one set per child. Write each child's name on the bottom of their set of cups.

During the Activity: Give each child a set of cups. Ask children to color both of their pictures. Encourage each child to rub glue on the back of their picture of Jesus next to the tomb and stick it to one side of their cup. Place that cup inside their second cup. Ask children to rub glue on the back of the picture of the stone and glue it on the cup covering the tomb on the inside cup. Demonstrate how to twist the cups to roll the stone away.

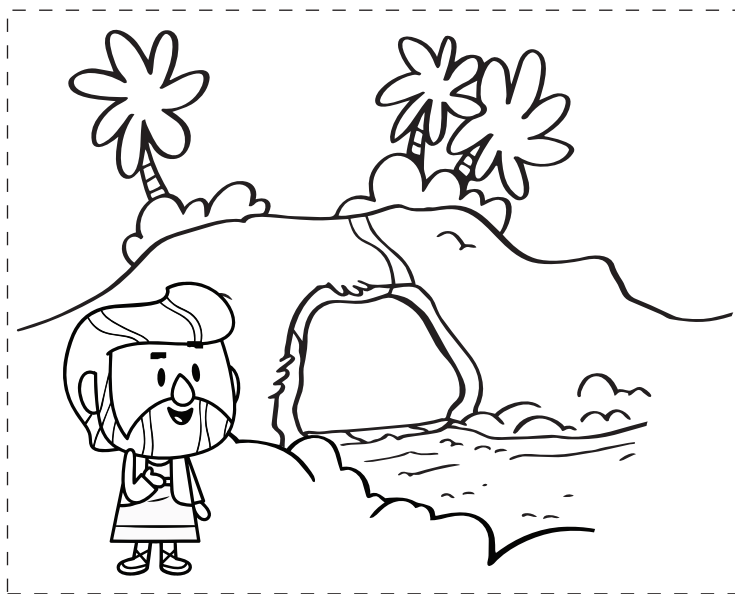
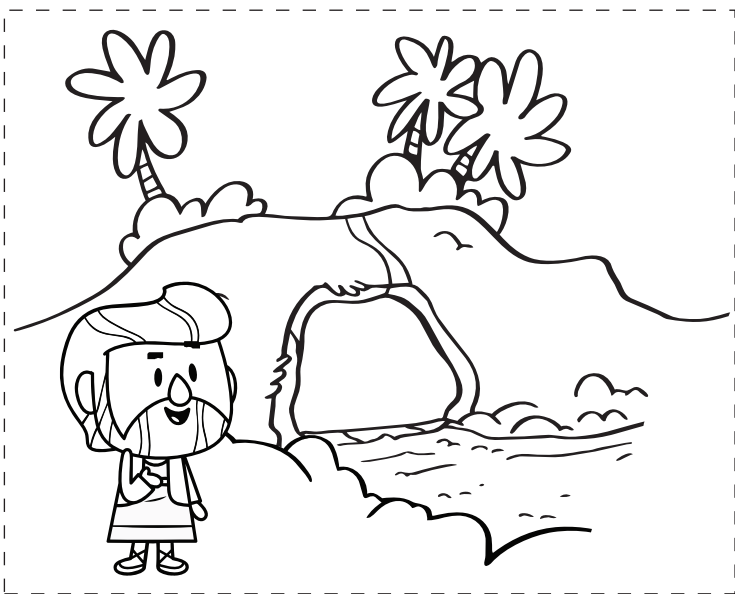
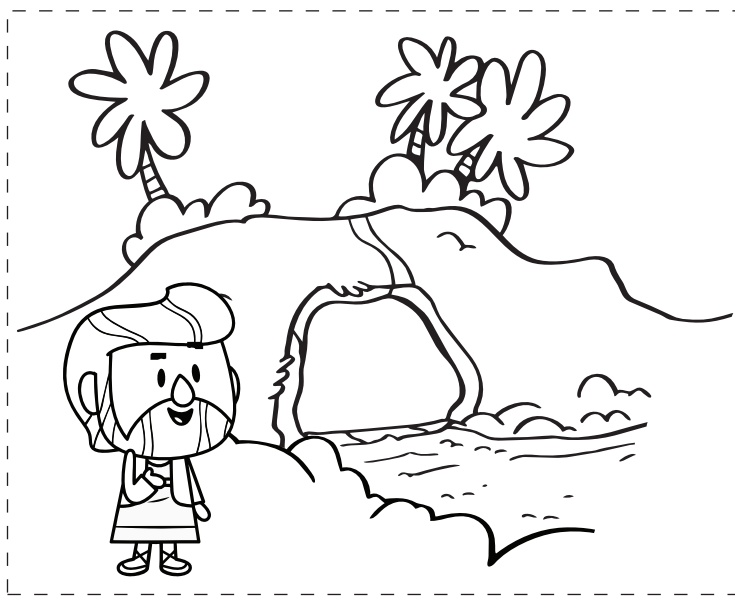
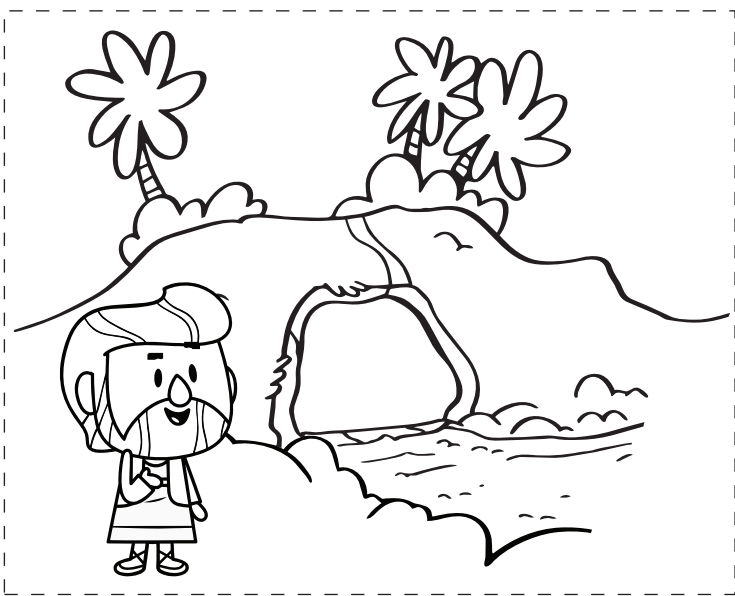
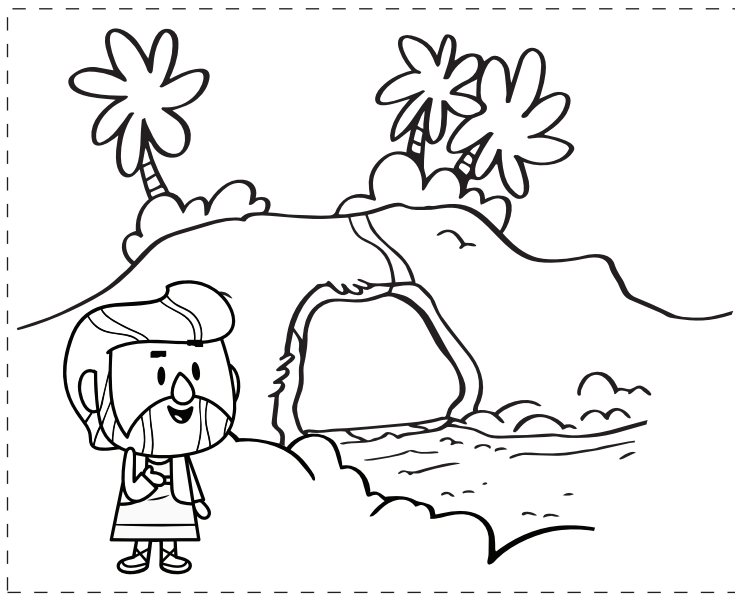
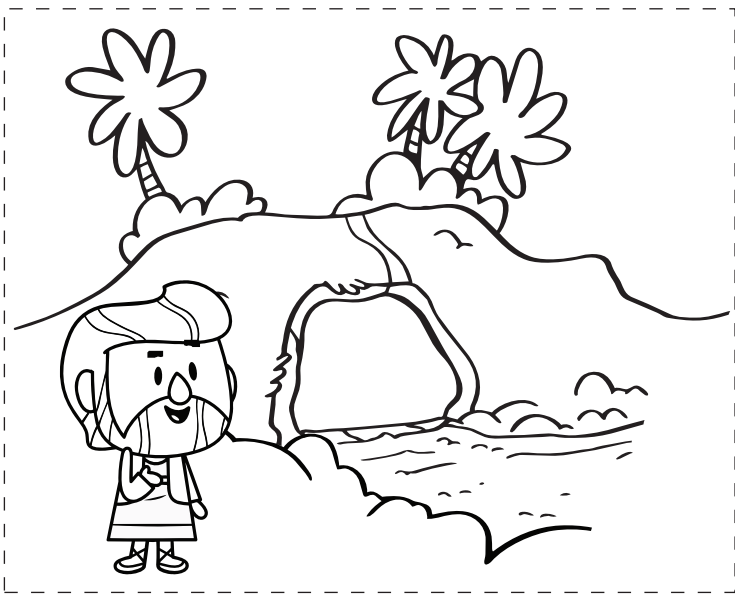
After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come make a special Easter craft with me that shows the super happy surprise of our Easter story!"

During the Activity: "Look at these pictures, they're pictures of the stone and the tomb. Color your pictures then we'll add them to your cups. *(Pause.)* Rub some glue on the back of the picture of Jesus next to the tomb. Now stick it to the side of your cup like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Super! Now put that cup inside your other cup. *(Demonstrate.)* Rub some glue on the back of that great big stone. *(Pause.)* Stick that on your cup to cover the tomb like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Great job! But we aren't finished yet. In our Bible Story today, we heard that Jesus died on a cross and His friends put His body in a tomb. *(Twist the cups so only the tomb shows.)* Then the big stone was rolled in front to cover the tomb. *(Twist the cups so the stone covers the tomb and Jesus.)* But on the third day, the stone was rolled away *(Twist the cup again to show the empty tomb and Jesus next to it)* and the tomb was ... EMPTY! Jesus was gone! Jesus is alive! Jesus came back just like He said he would! Hip, hip, hooray! Jesus is alive! Let's do it again. The tomb was closed with a big stone ... but then it was rolled away! Jesus is alive!"

After the Activity: "You can take this home to tell everyone the good news! Jesus is alive, and **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever?**[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"



What to Do:
Copy on copy paper and cut.
One set per child.

Jesus is alive.

Easter • Matthew 26:31-32, 36,
47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

Jesus is alive.

Easter • Matthew 26:31-32, 36,
47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

Jesus is alive.

Easter • Matthew 26:31-32, 36,
47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

Jesus is alive.

Easter • Matthew 26:31-32, 36,
47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

Jesus is alive.

Easter • Matthew 26:31-32, 36,
47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

Jesus is alive.

Easter • Matthew 26:31-32, 36,
47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

What to Do:
Copy on copy paper and cut.
One set per child.

"Jesus is Alive" Activity Page
April 2026, Week 1, Small Group 3-5-year-olds
© 2026 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.

Getting Ready | 4-5's Small Group

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

Social

Providing time for fun interaction 15 minutes

Encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and engage with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing fun, age-appropriate, hands-on activities that introduce new concepts they will hear in the Bible Story.

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Find Jesus

Made to Play

What You Need:

- Three party hats
- Small toy Jesus figure
- *Optional: "Find Jesus" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors in place of the small Jesus figurine*

What You Do:

- *Optional: Copy "Find Jesus" on cardstock and cut one per Small Group.*

Groups

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

25 minutes

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

1. Memory Verse with Motions

Hear from God | Memory Verse Review

Made to Move

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

Optional EveryChild Supplies:

- "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF
- Cardstock
- VELCRO® dots
- Scissors

2. 1,2,3 Hopscotch

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Move

What You Need:

- "1,2,3 Hopscotch" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Painter's tape

What You Do:

- Copy "1,2,3 Hopscotch" on cardstock, two sets per Small Group.
- Arrange and tape the pages to the floor in a simple hopscotch pattern (1, 2, 3, Jesus).

3. Jesus is Alive!

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Jesus is Alive" Activity Page
- Copy paper
- Two clear plastic cups per child
- Crayons
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Permanent marker

What You Do:

- Copy "Jesus is Alive" on copy paper and cut one set per child.
- Write each child's name on the bottom of their set of cups.

Supplies

Find Jesus | Made to Play *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. Party hats	3
2. Toy Jesus figure	1
3. Optional: "Find Jesus" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors in place of the small Jesus figurine.	1

1, 2, 3 Hopscotch | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. "1,2,3 Hopscotch" Activity Page	2
2. Cardstock	1
3. Painter's tape	1

Memory Verse with Motions | Made to Move

	Quantity
1. Optional EveryChild Supplies:- "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF	Several
2. Optional EveryChild Supplies:- Cardstock	Several
3. Optional EveryChild Supplies: VELCRO® dots	Several
4. Optional EveryChild Supplies: Scissors	1

Jesus Is Alive! | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. "Jesus is Alive" Activity Page	1
2. Cardstock	1
3. clear plastic cups per child	2
4. Crayons	Several
5. Scissors	1
6. Glue sticks	Several
7. Permanent marker	1

WEEK

TWO

4-5's | W2

Today's Suggested Schedule—April 2026, Week 2

Today's Bible Story: Breakfast on the Beach • John 21:1-14
Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Key Question: Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse: "I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Carry the Food

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Picasso Bible Story

Friend, Friend, Forever!

Party in a Bag

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

*Allergy Alert



Bible Story

Breakfast on the Beach • John 21:1-14
Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Key Question

Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse

"I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

15 min

Social

5 min

Carry the Food | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 👤 | Spatulas | 2 |
| 👤 | Beanbags or foam cutouts (shaped like fish or bread) | 2 |
| 👤 | Painter's tape | 1 |



EveryChild Tips

- Use a small plate instead of a spatula for easier balancing.
- Allow children to carry the beanbag in their hands if balancing is too challenging. The goal is participation and fun.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Create a start line and a finish line with the painter's tape on opposite sides of the room.

During the Activity: Divide children into two lines. Give the first child in each line a spatula with a beanbag "fish" on it. Explain that they need to walk carefully to the finish line and back without dropping the food. If they drop it, they pick it up and keep going. Then they hand the spatula to the next person in line.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hello! I'm so glad you're here today. Come play a fun balancing game with me!"

During the Activity: "Today we're going to pretend we are carrying food to our friends! The first person in each line will get a spatula with some food on it. Your job is to walk all the way to the other line and back without letting it fall! Ready? Go! (*Cheer for the children.*) That's it, nice and steady! Great job! Now pass it to your friend."








After the Activity: "You all did such a great job carrying the food to your friends! Our Bible Story today is about a time Jesus made a special breakfast for His friends. Let's hear all about it!"



5 min

Picasso Bible Story | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	"Picasso Bible Story" Activity Page	1
	"Picasso Story Pieces" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Cube-shaped tissue box	1
	Crayons	Several
	Clear tape	1
	Scissors	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Picasso Bible Story" on cardstock, one per child. Copy "Picasso Story Pieces" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Tape one cutout to each side of the tissue box. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Roll the die and talk about the picture it lands on. Encourage children to draw that picture on their paper. Continue until all six items have been rolled and drawn, then review the Bible Story.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's all be artists and draw our Bible story today! Everyone gets a paper that shows the beach."

During the Activity: "We'll take turns rolling this die. (*Hold up the die.*) Whatever picture it lands on, we all will draw it on our paper! [Child's name], you roll first! (*Child rolls.*) It's the campfire! Let's all draw some flames on the campfire. (*Pause.*) Jesus made a fire to cook breakfast. Okay, who's next? (*Continue through all the pieces: the disciples, the fish cooking, the sun, the waves in the water, briefly retelling the story part for each.*) Look at your pictures! You drew the whole story! Jesus surprised His friends and made them breakfast to show them He would always be their friend."

After the Activity: "You are all amazing artists! Your pictures show the special breakfast Jesus made for His friends. He did that because Jesus wants to be our friend forever. Who wants to be your friend forever? - **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

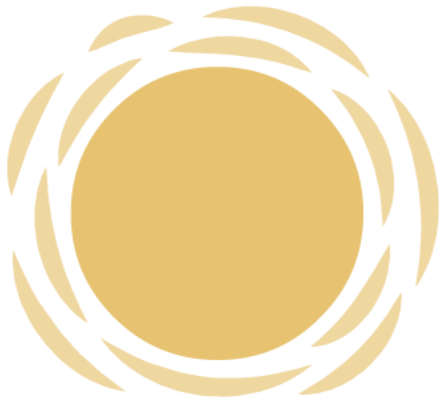
Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Breakfast on the Beach • John 21:1-14



What to Do:
Copy on cardstock.
One per Small Group.

"Picasso Bible Story" Activity Page
April 2026, Week 2, Small Group 3-5-year-olds.
© 2026 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.



What to Do:
Copy on cardstock and cut.
One set per Small Group.

"Picasso Story Pieces" Activity Page
April 2026, Week 2, Small Group 3-5-year-olds
© 2026 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.

5 min

Friend, Friend, Forever! | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Have the children sit in a circle, facing in.

During the Activity: Play a game of Duck, Duck, Goose, but change the words. The child who is "it" walks around the circle, gently tapping each friend on the head saying, "Friend ... friend ... friend ..." until they choose one to say "FOREVER!" on. Then that child chases the tapper around the circle to try and tag them before they sit in the empty spot.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's play a game! We're going to play a special version of Duck, Duck, Goose."

During the Activity: "Instead of saying 'duck,' we're going to tap our friends and say, 'Friend.' And instead of 'goose,' we'll say, 'FOREVER!' because Jesus wants to be our friend forever! Are you ready? (Choose a child to start.) Okay, walk around and tap your friends. 'Friend ... friend ... FOREVER!' Run! (Play for several rounds.)"








After the Activity: "That was so much fun! Jesus is the best friend, and He wants to be our friend not just for a little while, but FOREVER! **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!** Who wants to be your friend forever?**[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

5 min

Party in a Bag | Made to Create

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	"Party in a Bag Note" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Paper lunch bags, one per child	1
	Crayons	Several
	Scissors	1
	Stickers	Several
	Small party items: a few pieces of confetti, one party horn, and a small streamer	Several



What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Party in a Bag Note" on cardstock and cut one note per child. Have the party items pre-sorted to easily place in each child's bag. Write each child's name on their bag.

During the Activity: Give each child a paper bag and let them decorate it with crayons and stickers. When they are done, help them put one of each party item inside their bag to take home.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Knowing that Jesus wants to be our friend forever is the best news ever! It makes me want to have a party! Let's make a 'Party in a Bag' to take home and celebrate!"

During the Activity: "First, let's decorate our party bags! Use the stickers and crayons to make them look super fun—like a party! (*Allow time to decorate.*) These look amazing! Now, every party needs some fun things. Let's add some confetti, a party horn, and a streamer to your bag. (*Help children add items.*) Now you have a party ready to go!"

After the Activity: "You can take your party bag home to celebrate the happy news with your family! What are we celebrating? That **[Bottom Line]** Jesus wants to be my friend forever! Hip, hip, hooray! Who wants to be your friend forever? **[Bottom Line]** Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"



Hip, Hip, Hooray!
Jesus is alive!

Your preschooler made this fantastic party bag to celebrate the happy news that Jesus is alive!

Jesus went away and came back just like He said He would.

Have a party and celebrate that Jesus wants to be your friend forever!
Hip, Hip, Hooray!



Hip, Hip, Hooray!
Jesus is alive!

Your preschooler made this fantastic party bag to celebrate the happy news that Jesus is alive!

Jesus went away and came back just like He said He would.

Have a party and celebrate that Jesus wants to be your friend forever!
Hip, Hip, Hooray!



Hip, Hip, Hooray!
Jesus is alive!

Your preschooler made this fantastic party bag to celebrate the happy news that Jesus is alive!

Jesus went away and came back just like He said He would.

Have a party and celebrate that Jesus wants to be your friend forever!
Hip, Hip, Hooray!



Hip, Hip, Hooray!
Jesus is alive!

Your preschooler made this fantastic party bag to celebrate the happy news that Jesus is alive!

Jesus went away and came back just like He said He would.

Have a party and celebrate that Jesus wants to be your friend forever!
Hip, Hip, Hooray!

What to Do:
Copy on cardstock and cut.
One note per child.

"Party in a Bag Note" Activity Page
April 2026, Week 2, Small Group 3-5-year-olds
© 2026 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.

Today we learned that after Jesus came alive again, His friends went to a mountain to meet Him. When His friends saw Jesus, they were so happy they worshipped Him! Then Jesus told them a very important thing to do. Jesus said, 'Go and tell EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE about Me.' Jesus gave them this very important job because He loves everyone.

Your preschooler can go and tell everyone just like the disciples did in our true Bible Story with these stickers.

Today we learned that after Jesus came alive again, His friends went to a mountain to meet Him. When His friends saw Jesus, they were so happy they worshipped Him! Then Jesus told them a very important thing to do. Jesus said, 'Go and tell EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE about Me.' Jesus gave them this very important job because He loves everyone.

Your preschooler can go and tell everyone just like the disciples did in our true Bible Story with these stickers.

Today we learned that after Jesus came alive again, His friends went to a mountain to meet Him. When His friends saw Jesus, they were so happy they worshipped Him! Then Jesus told them a very important thing to do. Jesus said, 'Go and tell EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE about Me.' Jesus gave them this very important job because He loves everyone.

Your preschooler can go and tell everyone just like the disciples did in our true Bible Story with these stickers.

Today we learned that after Jesus came alive again, His friends went to a mountain to meet Him. When His friends saw Jesus, they were so happy they worshipped Him! Then Jesus told them a very important thing to do. Jesus said, 'Go and tell EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE about Me.' Jesus gave them this very important job because He loves everyone.

Your preschooler can go and tell everyone just like the disciples did in our true Bible Story with these stickers.

Today we learned that after Jesus came alive again, His friends went to a mountain to meet Him. When His friends saw Jesus, they were so happy they worshipped Him! Then Jesus told them a very important thing to do. Jesus said, 'Go and tell EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE about Me.' Jesus gave them this very important job because He loves everyone.

Your preschooler can go and tell everyone just like the disciples did in our true Bible Story with these stickers.

Today we learned that after Jesus came alive again, His friends went to a mountain to meet Him. When His friends saw Jesus, they were so happy they worshipped Him! Then Jesus told them a very important thing to do. Jesus said, 'Go and tell EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE about Me.' Jesus gave them this very important job because He loves everyone.

Your preschooler can go and tell everyone just like the disciples did in our true Bible Story with these stickers.

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

Social**Providing time for fun interaction
15 minutes**

Encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and engage with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing fun, age-appropriate, hands-on activities that introduce new concepts they will hear in the Bible Story.

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

1. Carry the Food

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Two spatulas
- Two beanbags or foam cutouts (shaped like fish or bread)
- Painter's tape

What You Do:

- Create a start line and a finish line with the painter's tape on opposite sides of the room.

Groups**Creating a Safe Place to Connect
25 minutes**

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

2. Picasso Bible Story**Talk about God | Bible Story Review**

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Picasso Bible Story" Activity Page
- "Picasso Story Pieces" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Cube-shaped tissue box
- Crayons
- Clear tape
- Scissors

What You Do:

- Copy "Picasso Bible Story" on cardstock, one per child.
- Copy "Picasso Story Pieces" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Tape one cutout to each side of the tissue box.
- Write each child's name on their paper.

4. Friend, Friend, Forever!**Live for God | Application Activity**

Made to Move

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

5. Party in a Bag**Live for God | Application Activity**

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Party in a Bag Note" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Paper lunch bags, one per child
- Crayons
- Stickers
- Scissors
- Small party items: a few pieces of confetti, one party horn, and a small streamer

What You Do:

- Copy "Party in a Bag Note" on cardstock and cut one note per child.
- Have the party items pre-sorted to easily place in each child's bag.
- Write each child's name on their bag.

Supplies

Carry the Food Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies		Quantity
1.	Spatulas	2
2.	Beanbags or foam cutouts (shaped like fish or bread)	2
3.	Painter's tape	1

Picasso Bible Story Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies		Quantity
1.	"Picasso Bible Story" Activity Page	1
2.	"Picasso Story Pieces" Activity Page	1
3.	Cardstock	1
4.	Cube-shaped tissue box	1
5.	Crayons	Several
6.	Clear tape	1
7.	Scissors	1

Party in a Bag Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies		Quantity
1.	"Party in a Bag Note" Activity Page	1
2.	Cardstock	1
3.	Paper lunch bags, one per child	1
4.	Crayons	Several
5.	Scissors	1
6.	Stickers	Several
7.	Small party items: a few pieces of confetti, one party horn, and a small streamer	Several

WEEK

THREE

4-5's | W3

Today's Suggested Schedule—April 2026, Week 3

Today's Bible Story: Great Commission • Matthew 28:16-20
I can tell others about Jesus.

Key Question: Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse: "I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Walkie Talkie and Move

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Parachuting Memory Verses

Bible Story Actions

Go and Tell a Friend

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

*Allergy Alert



Bible Story

Great Commission • Matthew 28:16-20
I can tell others about Jesus.

Key Question

Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse






"I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

5 min

On the Move | Made to Play

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

 Large sheet of butcher paper	1
 Washable markers in various colors	Several
 Toy cars	1
 Masking tape	1
 Baby wipes	Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Cover table with butcher paper and secure with tape. Remove the lids to each marker and tape to the back of several toy cars, making sure the marker tip touches the paper.

During the Activity: Invite children to "drive" the cars around the paper, creating a trail of color. Encourage children to switch cars and drive some more. Clean hands as needed.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Welcome, friends! We're going to drive these cool cars all around the table to make some super cool art."

During the Activity: "Pick a car and get ready to drive! As you move your car, look what happens! (Demonstrate.) The marker is drawing colorful lines. They look like a road! Vroom, vroom! Let's drive our cars all over the paper. Let's go here, and there, and everywhere! Look at all the colorful roads we are making together! You can go anywhere!"

After the Activity: "Wow, look at this amazing paper! Your cars went everywhere! In our Bible Story today, Jesus tells His friends something very important to do wherever you go. Let's go hear what He said!"

30 min

Groups

5 min

Parachuting Memory Verses | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

 Parachute	1
---	---

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say the Memory Verse with the motions together.

During the Activity: Choose one child to sit gently in the middle of the parachute. The other children will walk slowly in a circle, causing the parachute to turn and gently spin the child in the middle. As you walk, say the Memory Verse together. Stop, let the child out, and choose a new child to sit in the middle.

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come stand in a circle around the parachute, and let's say our verse and do the motions. 'I (*point up*) have called you (*point to others*) friends,' (*hook index fingers twice*) John 15:15.' (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job! Now grab the parachute and we'll play a fun game!"

During the Activity: "Okay, [Child's name], you get to be the first one to ride in the middle! Sit right here. Now, everyone else, let's hold on tight and walk in a circle. As we walk, let's say our verse. Ready? 'I have called you friends.' 'I have called you friends.' Great job! Let's stop and let [Child's name] have a turn." (*Continue until several children have had a turn in the middle.*)

After the Activity: "That was a fun way to remember Jesus' words! He called his friends, friends, and Jesus calls us friends, too! He wants us to remember that **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever? **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"**

5 min

Bible Story Actions | Made to Play *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Spread out in an open area.

During the Activity: Lead the children in simple actions to retell the story of the Great Commission. Do the actions together as you tell the story. *After the Activity:* Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's use our bodies to tell our Bible Story today! Just do what I do!"

During the Activity: "After Jesus came alive again, His friends went to a mountain to meet Him. Let's make a mountain. (*Stand with feet wide and arms up in a point.*) When His friends saw Jesus, they were so happy that they worshipped Him! Let's bow down to worship Jesus. (*Bow.*) Then Jesus told them a very important thing to do. Jesus said, 'GO!' Let's all march in place. (*March.*) Jesus said, 'Go and tell EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE about Me.' Let's point all around the room to show EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE. (*Point all around.*) Jesus gave them this very important job because He loves everyone. Let's give ourselves a big hug. (*Hug yourself.*) Put your hands by your mouth like you are going to share a very important message (*cup hands by mouth*) and say, **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever? **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever."**

After the Activity: "You all did a great job telling the story with your bodies! Tell me who wants to be your friend forever?**[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Jesus gave His friends a great plan: Go and tell everyone about Him! That's a message for us, too! We can go and tell everyone, everywhere about Jesus!"

5 min

Go and Tell a Friend | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Divide the children into two groups, standing on opposite sides of the room, facing each other (like Red Rover).

During the Activity: Explain that you will choose one child to cross over to the other team. That child will pick one friend from the other team, give them a high-five, and say, "Jesus wants to be your friend forever!" Then, the child who was just picked goes to the other side. They will pick another friend to give a high-five and say, "Jesus wants to be your friend forever." Continue back and forth, sending one child at a time to "go and tell" a friend until everyone has had a turn or two.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's play a game called 'Go and Tell a Friend'! It's all about sharing the good news that Jesus wants to be our friend forever."








During the Activity: "Okay, everyone, I'm sending [child's name] to go and tell [child's name] the good news that 'Jesus wants to be your friend forever!' Great job! Now, [Child's name], you go to the other side and pick a friend to tell the good news, 'Jesus wants to be your friend forever!' We will go back and forth across the room until everyone has had a chance to tell someone the good news. Wow! That was a really fun way to tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus wants to be your friend forever!"

After the Activity: "You all did a wonderful job going and telling your friends the best news! Jesus went on a mountain and told His friends a very important message. Jesus said to go everywhere and tell everyone that He loves them and wants to be their friend forever. Who wants to be your friend forever?**[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"**

5 min

Share the News | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	"Share the News Stickers" Activity Page	3
	"Fun at Home" Activity Page	1
	Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent	Several
	Envelopes, one per child	1
	Crayons	Several
	Fun stickers	Several
	Scissors	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Share the News Stickers" on label paper, three stickers per child. Copy "Fun at Home" on cardstock and cut one note per child.

During the Activity: Encourage children to decorate their envelopes. Ask children to place their stickers inside the envelope along with their note.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Jesus told His friends to go and tell everyone about Him. We can do that, too! Let's make something special to help us share the good news."

During the Activity: "First, let's decorate this envelope. This will hold our good news! (*Allow time to decorate.*) Now, let's put the good news inside. I have stickers of our Memory Verse! (*Show stickers.*) They say, 'I have called you friends.' Let's put some inside your envelope. (*Help children add stickers.*)"

After the Activity: "Now you can take this home and give these stickers to people you love, like your family or your friends! You can be just like Jesus' friends and 'go and tell' everyone that **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever?**[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"



Getting Ready | 4-5's Small Group

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

Social

Providing time for fun interaction

15 minutes

Encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and engage with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing fun, age-appropriate, hands-on activities that introduce new concepts they will hear in the Bible Story.

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

On the Move

Made to Play

What You Need:

- Large sheet of butcher paper
- Washable markers in various colors
- Toy cars
- Masking tape
- Baby wipes

What You Do:

- Cover a table with the butcher paper and secure to the table with tape.
- Remove the lids to each marker and tape to the back of several toy cars, making sure the marker tip touches the paper.

Groups

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

25 minutes

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

1. Parachuting Memory Verses

Hear from God | Memory Verse Review

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Parachute

2. Bible Story Actions

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Play

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

3. Go and Tell a Friend

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Move

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

4. Share the News

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Share the News Stickers" Activity Page
- "Fun at Home" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent
- Envelopes, one per child
- Crayons
- Fun stickers
- Scissors

What You Do:

- Copy "Share the News Stickers" on label paper, three stickers per child.
- Copy "Fun at Home" on cardstock and cut, one note per child.

Supplies

On the Move | Made to Play *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. Large sheet of butcher paper	1
2. Washable markers in various colors	Several
3. Toy cars	1
4. Masking tape	1
5. Baby wipes	Several

Parachuting Memory Verses | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. Parachute	1

Share the News | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. "Share the News Stickers" Activity Page	3
2. "Fun at Home" Activity Page	1
3. Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent	Several
4. Envelopes, one per child	1
5. Crayons	Several
6. Fun stickers	Several
7. Scissors	1

WEEK

FOUR

4-5's | W4

Today's Suggested Schedule—April 2026, Week 4

Today's Bible Story: Heaven • John 14:3; Revelation 21, 22:1-5

Jesus is preparing a place for us.

Key Question: Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse: "I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Prepare for a Party

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Yes or No

Hooray Hats

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

*Allergy Alert



Bible Story

Heaven • John 14:3; Revelation 21, 22:1-5

Jesus is preparing a place for us.

Key Question

Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse

"I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV





15 min

Social

5 min

Prepare for A Party | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

 Crepe paper streamers	Several
 Party hats	Several
 Painter's tape	1
 Optional: Confetti	Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the party supplies ready in a central location.

During the Activity: Tell the children that you are getting ready for a very special party. Invite them to help you decorate the room. Give them pieces of streamers to tape to walls, chairs, or tables. Let them wear party hats and celebrate.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hello, friends! I'm so happy you're here! Happy Easter! Come stand with me. We're going to play a game with this big, round stone! (*Hold up ball or hoop.*)"









During the Activity: "In our story today, we will hear about a big stone that was rolled in front of a tomb. Let's play a game and pretend to roll that stone! We'll make two teams. When I say, 'Go,' the first person in each line will roll the stone all the way to that wall and then roll it back to the next person. Ready, set, go! (*Cheer for the children as they play.*) You are doing a great job rolling that big stone! Way to go, teams!" (*Repeat as desired.*)

After the Activity: "That was so much fun! That big stone reminds me of our Bible story today. It's a special story that makes me want to shout, 'Hip, hip, hooray!' Let's go hear about the stone in our story."

5 min

Yes or No | Made to Play *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

-  A bag or box 1
-  Adhesive bandage 1
-  Sad face drawing 1
-  Toy thermometer 1
-  Happy face drawing 1
-  Heart cutout 1
-  Toy Jesus figure 1
-  Red and green construction paper Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the red and green papers on the floor to define the "No" and "Yes" piles. Put all the items in the bag/box.

During the Activity: Let children take turns pulling one item out of the bag. Ask them, "Will this be in Heaven?" and help them decide. A bandage for boo-boos? No, there are no ouchies in Heaven (*place on red paper*). A happy face? Yes! We will always be happy in Heaven (*place on green paper*).

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Our Bible Story tells us some amazing things about Heaven. Let's look in our story bag and decide what will be in Heaven and what won't."

During the Activity: "[Child's name], pull something out of our story bag/box! (*Child pulls out a bandage.*) It's a bandage for a boo-boo. Will we have boo-boos in Heaven? (*Pause.*) No! In Heaven, we will never be hurt. So, we'll put this on the red paper for 'No'. [Next child's name], what did you find? (*Child pulls out a happy face.*) A happy face! Will we be happy in Heaven? (*Pause.*) Yes! We will be with Jesus, so we will be happy forever! Let's put this on the green paper for 'Yes.'" (*Continue with the items that will not be in Heaven: sad face drawing and thermometer. And the items that will be in Heaven: heart cutout, toy Jesus figure.*)





After the Activity: "Look! Heaven is a place with happy faces and love and Jesus! There will be no more sadness or boo-boos. Jesus is making Heaven a special place for us because **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever?**[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"



5 min

Hooray Hats | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	"Hooray Hats Sticker" Activity Page	1
	Avery® Labels #5163 or equivalent	1
	Paper party hats	1
	Stickers	Several



What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Hooray Hats Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child. Write each child's name on their party hat.

During the Activity: Encourage children to decorate their party hats with stickers, then assist each child in putting their party hats on.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's make a celebration hat! Because we are celebrating the best news ever that **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!** Hip, hip, hooray!"

During the Activity: "Decorate your party hat and paper strip to make it look super special! Use all the fun stickers and colors. (*Allow time to decorate.*) These look like celebration hats—hip, hip, hooray! Now glue your hat to the paper strip. (*Pause. Then measure each child's strip around their head and staple closed.*) Children will then cover the staple closure bends with sticker(s).(*Pause.*) Your hats say, 'Hip, Hip, Hooray! **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**'

After the Activity: "Now you can wear your hat to celebrate! When anyone asks what you're celebrating, you can tell them the happy news: **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!** We can wear the hats and celebrate that Jesus is preparing a place for His friends in Heaven so we can be together forever. And we want to celebrate because Heaven is the most special place with no more boo-boos and no more sadness. Who wants to be your friend forever?**[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

Getting Ready | 4-5's Small Group

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

Social

Providing time for fun interaction

15 minutes

Encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and engage with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing fun, age-appropriate, hands-on activities that introduce new concepts they will hear in the Bible Story.

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

1. Prepare for a Party

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Crepe paper streamers
- Party hats
- Painter's tape
- *Optional: Confetti*

Groups

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

25 minutes

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

2. Yes or No

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Play

What You Need:

- A bag or box
- Adhesive bandage
- Sad face drawing
- Toy thermometer
- Happy face drawing
- Heart cutout
- Toy Jesus figure
- Red and green construction paper

5. Hooray Hats

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Hooray Hats Sticker" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #5163 or equivalent
- Paper party hats
- Stickers

What You Do:

- Copy "Hooray Hats Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child.
- Write each child's name on their party hat.

Supplies

Prepare for A Party | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. Crepe paper streamers	Several
2. Party hats	Several
3. Painter's tape	1
4. Optional: Confetti	Several

Yes or No | Made to Play *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. A bag or box	1
2. Adhesive bandage	1
3. Sad face drawing	1
4. Toy thermometer	1
5. Happy face drawing	1
6. Heart cutout	1
7. Toy Jesus figure	1
8. Red and green construction paper	Several

Hooray Hats | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. "Hooray Hats Sticker" Activity Page	1
2. Avery® Labels #5163 or equivalent	1
3. Paper party hats	1
4. Stickers	Several