

WEEK

ONE

4-5's | W1

Today's Suggested Schedule—May 2026, Week 1

Bible Story: Villages, Towns, Countryside • Mark 6:53-56
Jesus cares about everyone.

Key Question: Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line: Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse: *How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.* • Ephesians 3:18 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.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Community Helper Dress-Up

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

Everyone, Everywhere Corners

Flat Jesus

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

Villages, Towns, Countryside • Mark 6:53-56
Jesus cares about everyone.

Key Question

Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line

Jesus cares about everyone.





Memory Verse

How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. • Ephesians 3:18 NIV

5 min

Community Helper Dress-Up | Made to Imagine

What You Need

 Dress-up clothes (community helpers)	Several
 Dress-up hats	Several
 Preschool-safe standing mirror	1
 Optional: "Community Helper Dress-Up" Activity Page, cardstock, sentence strips, stapler, clear tape, and scissors in place of dress-up hats.	Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the dress-up clothes near the mirror. *Optional:* Print "Community Helper Dress-Up" on cardstock and cut one set per Small Group. Staple each hat cutout to a sentence strip, close the ends, and staple shut. Place a piece of tape over the staple closures.

During the Activity: Invite children to choose a costume with a hat to wear and encourage them to look at themselves in the mirror after they get dressed. Encourage children to role-play who they're dressed as. Continue with each child. Repeat as time and interest allow.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hello, hello friends! Come over here and look at all these dress-up clothes and hats. Who do you want to be today?"

During the Activity: "You could be a firefighter. (Hold up the firefighter hat.) Or a doctor. (Hold up the doctor hat.) Let's get dressed up like community helpers. (Pause.) [Child's name], look in the mirror and pretend to be a [community helper]. Great job! Come stand with me and let [child's name] look in the mirror and pretend to be a [community helper]. (Continue with each child.) Doctors help us when we're sick. Firefighters help when there's a fire. Community helpers are great at helping people!"

After the Activity: "Helpers care for people. Today in our Bible Story, we'll hear how people came from all over to bring their sick friends to see Jesus, because they knew He could help. Let's go hear how Jesus helped these people."

30 min

Groups

5 min

Memory Verse with Motions | Made to Move



- 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, 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 tells us how BIG Jesus' love is, and it goes like this: 'How wide (*stretch arms out wide*) and long (*stretch arms forward*) and high (*reach arms up*) and deep (*crouch down low*) is the love of Christ. (*Hug yourself.*) Ephesians 3:18." (*Open hands like a book.*)

During the Activity: "Now, let's learn the motions! The first part says, 'How wide.' Everyone, stretch your arms out as wide as you can. (*Stretch arms out wide.*) Great! The next part says, 'and long.' Stretch your arms out in front of you. (*Stretch arms forward.*) The next part says, 'and high.' Put your arms up way up high over your head. (*Reach arms up.*) Next part says, 'and deep.' Squat and get really small. (*Crouch down low.*) Super! And the last part says, 'is the love of Christ.' Give yourself a great big hug.




(*Hug yourself.*) Ephesians 3:18. (*Open hands like a book.*) Let's do it again!" (*Repeat several times.*)

After the Activity: "Our verse teaches us that Jesus' love is big! Huge! In our true story from the Bible, Jesus helped people in every town and village. Jesus didn't miss anyone because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"

5 min

Everyone, Everywhere Corners | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

-  "Everyone, Everywhere Corners" Activity 1 Page,
-  Cardstock 4
-  Painter's tape 1



- In place of running, encourage children to move in an alternative way so all children can participate.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Everyone, Everywhere Corners" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Tape the pictures around the room on the walls at child's height.

During the Activity: Encourage children to run to the corner you call out. When everyone gets to the corner, ask children to say the Bottom Line. Continue with each of the corners. Then if time and interest allow, let children run to any of the corners they desire and say the Bottom Line.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends! Meet me in the middle of the room. (Pause.) There are different pictures around the room, do you see them? (Point to the four pictures.) Let's play a game with those pictures."

During the Activity: "Do you see the picture of the playground? (Point to the playground picture.) When I say go, I want you to run to the picture. Ready, set, GO! (Pause.) Hooray! You made it! Tell me friends, who cares about everyone at the playground? (Pause.) That's right **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone** at the playground! Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Great job! Come back to the middle with me. (Pause.) Now look for the picture of grocery store. You can run to it when I say go. Ready, set, GO! (Pause.) Hooray! You made it! Tell me friends, who cares about everyone at the grocery store? (Pause.) That's right **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone** at the grocery store! Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** (Continue with each picture and repeat. Then allow children to run to whichever picture they want and say the **Bottom Line.**) Great job, friends! Come back to the middle and sit with me."

After the Activity: "All the places we ran to today; the playground, the grocery store, the doctor's office, the school, even when we ran right back here, to the middle, Jesus cares about everyone everywhere we went! In our Bible Story, everywhere Jesus went, small towns, big towns, or out into the countryside, He did amazing things to help people, because Jesus loves and cares about everyone! People ran and carried their sick friends on mats to Jesus. And others simply touched Jesus' robe and were healed.







Jesus' love is wide, and long, and high, and deep enough for everyone because Jesus loves and cares about everyone. **Who does Jesus care about? [Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.**

5 min

Flat Jesus | Made to Create

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	"Flat Jesus" Activity Page,	1
	11-inch x 17-inch paper	1
	Crayons or washable markers	Several
	Permanent marker	1
	Optional 1: Scissors	Several
	Optional 2: Camera and photo paper	Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Flat Jesus" on 11-inch x 17-inch paper, one per child. *Optional:* For each child, cut out around Jesus. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Give each child a picture to decorate. *Optional:* Take a picture of each child with their picture of Jesus and either print or text/email to their parent/guardian.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hello friends! Come to the table and let's get ready to make some super fun story art to take home today."

During the Activity: "Tell me who this is a picture of. (Pause for responses.) That's right! It's a big picture of Jesus! Color your picture as I review today's story. Today, we learned that wherever Jesus went, He did amazing things to help people. Wherever Jesus went, small towns, big towns, or out into the countryside, people ran throughout the area and carried their sick friends on mats to Jesus. They knew that Jesus cared about them and could help them. Friends, Jesus is so powerful that sometimes just touching Jesus' clothes could heal the sick. In one town, people crowded around Jesus to reach for His robe, and Jesus healed every single person who touched His clothes. Jesus loves and cares about everyone!"

After the Activity: "You can take your picture of Jesus everywhere you go and tell people in those places that Jesus loves them and cares about them. **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"

Supplies

Community Helper Dress-Up | Made to Imagine

	Quantity
1. Dress-up clothes (community helpers)	Several
2. Dress-up hats	Several
3. Preschool-safe standing mirror	1
4. Optional: "Community Helper Dress-Up" Activity Page, cardstock, sentence strips, stapler, clear tape, and scissors in place of dress-up hats.	Several

Everyone, Everywhere Corners | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. "Everyone, Everywhere Corners" Activity Page,	1
2. Cardstock	4
3. Painter's tape	1

Flat Jesus | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. "Flat Jesus" Activity Page,	1
2. 11-inch x 17-inch paper	1
3. Crayons or washable markers	Several
4. Permanent marker	1
5. Optional 1: Scissors	Several
6. Optional 2: Camera and photo paper	Several

WEEK

TWO

4-5's | W2

Today's Suggested Schedule—May 2026, Week 2

Today's Bible Story: Jesus Heals a Woman on the Sabbath • Luke 13:10–17 CEV

Jesus cares about everyone every day.

Key Question: Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line: Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse: *How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.* • Ephesians 3:18 NIV

Note: This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a special need, learning difference, or disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional EveryChild tips. Check out the additional Special Needs resources included.

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.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

How Long Can You

Calendar Time

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

Voice the Verse

Days of the Week

Dominoes

Bend and Move

Jesus Heals the Woman

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

Jesus Heals a Woman on the Sabbath • Luke 13:10–17 CEV

Jesus cares about everyone every day.

Key Question

Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line

Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse

How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. • Ephesians 3:18 NIV

15 min

Social

5 min

How Long Can You | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

No supplies needed



- Select movements so every child can participate.

Optional Supply: Timer

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Gather children in an open space in your activity area.

During the Activity: Ask children to see how long they can do a movement. Time children if desired.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hello, hello friends! Come over here with me and spread out. We are going to play a game to see how long we can do some different motions."

During the Activity: "Let's see how long we can stand on one foot. Ready and go! *(Pause.)* Wow! [Child's name(s)], you stood on one foot the longest! Great job, everyone. Now let's see how long we can jump up and down. *(Pause.)* Wow! [Child's name(s)], you jumped up and down the longest. That was amazing! Now let's see how long we can spin around. *(Pause.)* Wow! Who's dizzy? Let's sit down. [Child's name(s)], you spun around the longest! That was fun! *(Continue with other movements as time and interest allow.)*"

After the Activity: "Wow! Some of you were able to jump or spin for a long time! Today, in our Bible Story, we'll hear about someone who was sick for a very long time, 18 years! That's way longer than any of us can jump or spin! Let's go hear how Jesus cared for that person."

5 min

Calendar Time | Made to Imagine

What You Need

👤 Calendar

1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Sit with children in a circle.

During the Activity: Use the calendar to talk about the days of the week, emphasizing Sunday (or Sabbath) as a day of rest. Talk about the different things you do on the different days of the week.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come sit in a circle on the floor with me. (Pause.) I have something to share with you today."

During the Activity: (Hold up the calendar.) This is a calendar; it has twelve different months in it. *(Turn to the current month.)* This is the month of May; that's the month we are in right now. See all these squares? *(Point to the days.)* These squares are the days in the month. *(Point to each day as you name it.)* There's Sunday, that's today! Monday. Some people go to school on Monday. What do you do on Monday? *(Continue with the other days of the week.)* That's fantastic! Let's go back to this day. *(Point to Sunday.)* This is today, Sunday, some people call Sunday the Sabbath."

After the Activity: "In our true story from the Bible, people didn't believe you should work on the Sabbath. But Jesus knew it was the right time to help someone. Let's go hear our story and hear all about the person Jesus helped."

30 min

Groups

5 min

Voice the Verse | Made to Imagine *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

No supplies needed

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 with the motions together with the children.

During the Activity: Encourage children to say the Memory Verse in different fun voices: like a coach, a librarian, or a singer. Repeat as time and interest allow.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come stand with me! Let's say our verse as we do the motions. Ready? 'How wide (*stretch arms out wide*) and long (*stretch arms forward*) and high (*reach arms up*) and deep (*crouch down low*) is the love of Christ. (*Hug yourself.*) Ephesians 3:18 (*open hands like a book*). Fantastic!"

During the Activity: "Now, let's say the verse like different people. First, let's say our verse like a coach. Pretend to blow your whistle (*tweet*) 'How wide and long (*tweet, tweet*) and high and deep (*tweet*) is the love of Christ.' (*Long tweet.*) Ephesians 3:18. Nice job! Now let's say our verse like a librarian. Everyone shh! We talk quietly in the library, so let's say our verse in a whisper. 'How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ' Ephesians 3:18. Now let's sing our verse like an opera singer. Let's warm up our voices, la la la. 'How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ' Ephesians 3:18. Who else can we pretend to be? (*Pause for responses.*) Let's say our verse like a [person]. (*Repeat as time and interest allow.*) That was amazing!"

After the Activity: "Our verse helps us remember that Jesus' love is SO big! So big that He stopped to help someone who needed Him on Sabbath, the day of rest. **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!"**

5 min

Days of the Week | Made to Play

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Gather the children to sit in a circle with you.

During the Activity: Tell the children you are going to sing a special song to help them remember that Jesus cares for them every single day. Sing the words and do the motions to the song below to the tune of "Oh My Darling Clementine" for the children one time so they can hear it. Lead the children to sing the song and do the motions with you several times.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hey friends, come over and stand with me. I have a super fun song for us to sing about today's Bible Story."

During the Activity: "We heard a great story about how Jesus helped a woman who had been sick for eighteen years! Jesus helped the woman on the Sabbath, on a special day of rest. But did you know Jesus helps people every single day? He does! Let's sing a song about it! It goes like this.

(Sing to the tune of the "Oh My Darling Clementine")

"Sunday, Monday, (Pat knees to the beat.)
 Tuesday, Wednesday, (Pat knees to the beat.)
 Thursday, Friday, (Pat knees to the beat.)
 Saturday. (Pat knees to the beat.)
 Jesus cares for me on every day, (Hug yourself.)
 on every day of the week!

"Are you ready to sing with me? Let's sing it together! *(Sing and do the motions together with the children as time and interest allow.)*


"What wonderful singing today! It's so good to know that Jesus doesn't just care for us on some days. He cares for us on ALL the days! He cares for you on Sunday, and Monday, and Tuesday, and all the days! Jesus cares for us every single day!"

After the Activity: "In our Bible Story, we heard how Jesus traveled from town to town, telling people about God's love. On one Sabbath day, while Jesus was teaching, He saw a woman who had been sick for a really long time. Jesus placed His hands on the woman. And the woman stood up straight, for the first time in 18 years, because Jesus is so powerful! She was so excited and thankful that she started to praise and thank God. Jesus cared for the woman because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone**, no matter what day it is. Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.**"

5 min

Dominoes | Made to Think

What You Need

 Dominoes

4

 Table

1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set up dominoes in several short lines on the table or on a flat surface. Try to make one line for each child.

During the Activity: Invite children to knock over the first domino in their line and watch as the other dominoes topple over. Then help children stand their dominoes back up as needed. Repeat several times then ask children to help you make one long line of dominoes. Leader will knock over the first domino in the long line. Repeat as time and interest allow.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come sit with me! These are dominoes. Have you ever played with dominoes? Let's get ready to watch something cool happen."

During the Activity: "When I say "Go" I want you to push the first domino in your line and watch what happens. Ready, set, go! *(Pause.)* Wow! Look how the dominoes all fell down, one after another. Now let's stand them back up and do it again. *(Repeat several times.)* This time, let's make one long line with all the dominoes. *(Help children line up all the dominoes.)* This time, I'll knock them down when you tell me ready, set, go. *(With children if needed.)* Ready, set, go. *(Push over the first domino.)* Wow! That was so cool!"

After the Activity: "In our Bible Story, Jesus helped the woman stand up straight after 18 years of being sick. Jesus healed her by just touching her because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!"**

5 min

Bend and Move | Made to Move

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Gather children in an open area.

During the Activity: Have the children move around the room bent over like bear crawling. When you call out, "Jesus is here!" Encourage children to stand up tall and cheer. Repeat as time and interest allow.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's get our bodies moving!"







During the Activity: "Let's see what it's like to walk around like the woman from our Bible Story. She had to walk bent over for 18 years. That's a really long time! This is called a bear crawl (*demonstrate*), let's move like this. Ready? Let's go! (*Give children time to move around a bit in the bear crawl.*) Keep moving until I say Jesus is here. (*Pause.*) Jesus is here! Everyone, stand up and cheer! Hooray! Awesome! Let's play some more!" (*Repeat as desired.*)

After the Activity: "You stood up and cheered just like the woman in our Bible Story. Jesus healed the woman on the special Sabbath day because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone** on every single day of the week. And Jesus loves and cares about us every day too! Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.**"

5 min

Jesus Heals the Woman | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	"Jesus Heals the Woman" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Crayons or washable markers	Several
	Metal brads	1
	Scissors	1
	Permanent marker	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Jesus Heals the Woman" on cardstock and cut one set per child and leader. For the leader and each child's cutout, poke a small hole at the "x" on both pieces. Write each child's name on their paper. Create an example.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color the picture of the woman. For each child, help secure the two pieces together with the brad. Demonstrate how the woman bends and stands straight.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come to the table with me and let's make some story art to take home today that will help us remember today's true story from the Bible."

During the Activity: "Let's color your picture of a woman from our Bible Story. (Pause.) Great job! Now let me help you put her together. (For each child, stack their two pieces and secure them with the brad.) The woman had been bent over for 18 years. (Hold up the example with the woman bent over.) She could not stand up straight. But Jesus saw her, called her over, and said, 'You are now well.' He placed His hands on her, and she stood up straight (straighten the example) for the first time in so many years. You try. (Pause.) She walked around like this (bend the picture of the woman over) for 18 years until Jesus healed her. (Stand the picture of the woman upright.)"

After the Activity: "Jesus healed the woman on the special Sabbath day because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone** on every single day of the week. And Jesus loves and cares about us every day too! **Who does Jesus care about? [Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"



Getting Ready | 3-5's Small Group

GETTING READY

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

Social

1. How Long Can You

Made to Move

What You Need:

- No supplies needed
- *Optional: Timer, one per Small Group*

3. Calendar Time

Made to Imagine

What You Need:

- Calendar, one per Small Group.

1. Voice the Verse

Hear from God | Memory Verse Review

Made to Imagine

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

2. Days of the Week

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Play

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

3. Dominoes

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Think

What You Need:

- Dominoes, four tiles per child.
- Table, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Set up dominoes in several short lines on the table or on a flat surface, one line per child.

4. Bend and Move

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Move

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

5. Jesus Heals the Woman

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Jesus Heals the Woman" Activity Page, one per child
- Cardstock, one per child
- Crayons or washable markers, several per child
- Metal brads, one per child
- Scissors, one per Small Group
- Permanent marker, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Jesus Heals the Woman" on cardstock and cut, one set per child and leader.
- For the leader and each child's cutout, poke a small hole at the "x" on both pieces.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Create an example.

Supplie

Calendar Time Made to Imagine	Quantity
1. Calendar	1

Dominoes Made to Think	Quantity
1. Dominoes	4
2. Table	1

Jesus Heals the Woman Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies	Quantity
1. "Jesus Heals the Woman" Activity Page	1
2. Cardstock	1
3. Crayons or washable markers	Several
4. Metal brads	1
5. Scissors	1
6. Permanent marker	1

WEEK

THREE

4-5's | W3

Today's Suggested Schedule—May 2026, Week 3

Today's Bible Story: Zacchaeus • Luke 19:1-10

Jesus cares about you no matter what.

Key Question: Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line: Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse: *How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.* • Ephesians 3:18 NIV

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Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

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Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Jenga Builders

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

Measure the Verse

Me in the Tree*

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

*Allergy Alert



Bible Story

Zacchaeus • Luke 19:1-10

Jesus cares about you no matter what.

Key Question

Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line

Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse

How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. • Ephesians 3:18 NIV

5 min

Builders | Made to Imagine

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

 Lincoln Logs™, Jenga®, or similar stacking blocks sets

1



- If children are sensitive to the texture of rocks, provide spoons or small shovels for them to dig with.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set out the blocks and gather the children around.

During the Activity: Encourage children to work together to build a house using the blocks.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Everyone come sit with me. Look at these cool blocks. Let's build something with them."

During the Activity: "How about we build a house. Let's work together and build one big house. We need to make a foundation. (*Guide children in starting the foundation.*) Let's keep building. (*Continue until your house is built.*) Wow! Look at this great house we built together." (*Encourage children to tear down and rebuild their own house as time and interest allow.*)

After the Activity: "In our Bible Story, we'll hear about when Jesus met a tax collector named Zacchaeus and went to his house because Jesus cared about him."

30 min

Groups

5 min

Measure the Verse | Made to Explore

What You Need

👤 Soft flexible tape measure

1

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the “Memory Verse Hand Motions” PDF and video, and on Pinterest.

What You Do:

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

During the Activity: Measure how wide each child’s arm span is. Once every child has been measured, say the verse with the motions one more time.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hello, hello! Let’s say our verse as we do the motions. Ready? ‘How wide (*stretch arms out wide*) and long (*stretch arms forward*) and high (*reach arms up*) and deep (*crouch down low*) is the love of Christ. (*Hug yourself.*) Ephesians 3:18 (*open hands like a book*). Fantastic!”

During the Activity: “Part of our verse says ‘how wide.’ Show me what the motions are for that part of the verse. (*Stretch arms out wide.*) Let’s measure how wide your arms are stretched out wide. (*Measure each child’s arm span.*) Wow! That’s a lot of love! Now let’s say our verse one more time with the motions. ‘How wide (*stretch arms out wide*) and long (*stretch arms forward*) and high (*reach arms up*) and deep (*crouch down low*) is the love of Christ. (*Hug yourself.*) Ephesians 3:18 (*open hands like a book*). Wonderful job, everyone!”

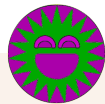
After the Activity: “Zacchaeus found out just how big that love really is. Jesus saw him, called him by name, and loved him no matter what he had done **because [Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.**”

5 min

Me in the Tree* | Made to Create

What You Need

👤	"Allergy Alert Poster"	1
📄	"Me in the Tree" Activity Page	1
👤	White cardstock	1
📄	Green cardstock	1
📄	Brown paper cups	1
👤	Potting soil bag	1
📄	Sunflower seeds	1
👤	Plastic bowl	1
👤	Shallow plastic bin	1
👤	Garden spades or plastic serving spoons	Several
👤	Camera	1
📄	Photo paper	1
📄	Green craft stick	1
👤	Glue sticks	Several
👤	Scissors,	1
👤	Plastic tablecloth	1
👤	Baby wipes	Several



- Provide gloves for children with sensory sensitivities.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock list potting soil and sunflower seeds and post at the door, one per Small Group. Print "Me in the Tree" on green cardstock and cut one cutout per child. Spread the tablecloth on the table or floor. Pour soil into the bin and place it in the middle of the tablecloth with the spades/spoons. Pour the sunflower seeds into the bowl. Take a picture of each child and print, cut as needed. *Option:* Fill each child's cup with soil and set it on the tablecloth.

During the Activity: Ask children to glue their picture and leaf to the top of their craft stick. Encourage children to scoop soil into their cups, make a hole in the middle of the soil then stick a seed inside. Help cover the seed with more soil, then ask children to stick their craft stick into their cup. Clean hands as needed.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come join me around the table. We are going to plant a seed that will grow tall like the tree Zacchaeus climbed up in our story today."

During the Activity: "First, take your picture and the leaf, and glue them to the top of your craft stick. (Pause.) Great job! Now scoop some soil into your cup. (Pause.) Poke a hole in the middle of the soil and put a seed. (Pause.) Fill in the hole. (Pause.) Great! Now stick the craft stick with your picture into your cup. You did a really good job. Let's clean our hands and talk about today's true story from the Bible."

After the Activity: "Zacchaeus had climbed a tree so he could see Jesus. When Jesus saw him, He called him down from the tree, and they went to Zacchaeus' house. Jesus loved Zacchaeus even though he had made bad choices. Zacchaeus was changed that day and gave back the money he took and more! Jesus came to help people who are sick and hurting and do wrong things, like Zacchaeus, because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"



Supplies

Builders | Made to Imagine *Uses Minimal Supplies

- | | Quantity |
|---|----------|
| 1. Lincoln Logs™, Jenga®, or similar stacking blocks sets | 1 |

Me in the Tree* | Made to Create

	Quantity
1. "Allergy Alert Poster"	1
2. "Me in the Tree" Activity Page	1
3. White cardstock	1
4. Green cardstock	1
5. Brown paper cups	1
6. Potting soil bag	1
7. Sunflower seeds	1
8. Plastic bowl	1
9. Shallow plastic bin	1
10. Garden spades or plastic serving spoons	Several
11. Camera	1
12. Photo paper	1
13. Green craft stick	1
14. Glue sticks	Several
15. Scissors,	1
16. Plastic tablecloth	1
17. Baby wipes	Several

WEEK

FOUR

4-5's | W4

Today's Suggested Schedule—May 2026, Week 4

Today's Bible Story: Woman at the Well • John 4:1-26, 39-42

Jesus cares about everyone everywhere.

Key Question: Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line: Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse: *How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.* (Ephesians 3:18 NIV)

Note: This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a special need, learning difference, or disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional EveryChild tips. Check out the additional Special Needs resources included.

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.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Heavy Water

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

Balloon Verse

Water Droplet Art

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

*Allergy Alert



Bible Story

Woman at the Well • John 4:1-26, 39-42

Jesus cares about everyone everywhere.

Key Question

Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line

Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse

How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. • Ephesians 3:18 NIV


15 min

Social

5 min

Heavy Water | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

 Gallon jug of water,

1



- Have children work in groups to carry the jug.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set the water in an open space in your activity area.

During the Activity: Encourage children to take turns trying to carry the jug a short distance.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come over here and look at this big jug of water. Do you think it's heavy? Let's find out."

During the Activity: "When I call your name, come give it a try. [Child's name], come try to pick up the water. *(Pause.)* Wow! Can you walk a few steps and carry the water? *(Pause.)* Great job! Put the water down, and our friend [child's name] can take a turn. Come try to pick up the water [child's name]. *(Continue with each child.)* You all did such a good job. That jug of water is really heavy!"

After the Activity: "In our true story from the Bible, when people needed water, they went to a well to get it. A well is like a hole deep in the ground that has water in it. You would scoop the water out of the well and put it in a jug to carry back to your house. There's a woman in our story who gave Someone special a drink of water. Let's go hear all about it!"



30 min

Groups

5 min

Balloon Verse | Made to Explore *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

-  Red heart mylar balloon 1
-  Drinking straw, 1

Note: Latex balloons become choking hazards when they burst, so we recommend using mylar balloons.

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

What You Do:

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

During the Activity: Show the small, flat balloon to the children and talk about the shape. Insert the straw into the balloon and blow it up as you say the verse, repeating until the balloon is full. Talk about how big the love balloon is now.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Well hello everyone! Come join me and let's say our verse together and do the motions! Ready? 'How wide (*stretch arms out wide*) and long (*stretch arms forward*) and high (*reach arms up*) and deep (*crouch down low*) is the love of Christ. (*Hug yourself.*) Ephesians 3:18 (*open hands like a book*). That was amazing! Everyone, sit where you are."












During the Activity: "Look at this! (*Hold up the flat balloon.*) Do you know what this is? (*Pause for response.*) It is a balloon. What shape is it? (*Pause for response.*) You got it! It's a heart. And hearts make us think of love. Let's try something. As I say part of the verse, you do the motions and I'll blow up the balloon. (*Insert the straw into the balloon.*) Let's see how big we can make our love balloon. Our verse starts with: 'How wide (*blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion*) and long (*blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion*) and high (*blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion*) and deep (*blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion*) is the love of Christ. (*Blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion.*) Ephesians 3:18. (*Blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion.*) Look at the balloon. It's getting bigger! Let's do it again. (*Repeat until the balloon is the desired size.*) Wow! (*Hold up the balloon.*) Look how full of love we made our balloon! Great job, everybody!

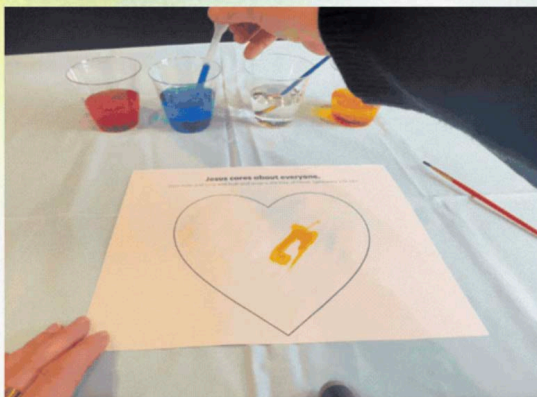
After the Activity: "Jesus' love is like our heart balloon! It gets bigger, and bigger and never runs out because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.**

5 min

Water Droplet Art | Made to Create

What You Need

	"Water Droplet Art" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Paint brushes	2
	Clear, plastic punch cups (every three children)	4
	Food coloring or liquid watercolor paints	1
	Water	1
	Pipettes or eyedroppers	1
	Plastic tablecloth	1
	Permanent marker	1
	Baby wipes	Several
	Optional: Paper towels	1



What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Water Droplet Art" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Spread the tablecloth over the table. Fill four cups half full of water for every three children. For each set of cups, leave one cup as is. In one cup, add red food coloring/paint. In another cup, add yellow food coloring/paint. In the last cup add blue food coloring/paint. Place the sets of cups around the table spacing so three children can share. Place the paint brushes in the clear water and the pipettes in the colored water.

During the Activity: Encourage children to paint their whole paper with the clear water only. Ask children to pick a color and squeeze it into their pipette/dropper, then squirt several drops on their paper. Watch how the color spreads. Encourage children to pick different colors to add to their paper in the same way and watch what happens when the colors mix together. Clean hands as needed and set aside to dry. *Optional: Blot excess water with a paper towel.*

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I'm so glad to know that Jesus loves and cares about each and every one of us! Come sit at the table with me, and let's make a really neat picture to remember that."

During the Activity: "Your paper has a shape on it. Tell me what shape you see. *(Pause for responses.)* That's right! There's a heart on your paper. And what do hearts make us think of? *(Pause for responses.)* LOVE! You got it! Take the paintbrush and paint your whole picture with the clear water. *(Pause.)* Put your paintbrushes down. Now pick a color and squeeze it into the pipette/dropper like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Hold the pipette/dropper over your paper and squeeze it a few times and watch what happens. *(Pause.)* Oh, so cool! Pick a different color and see what happens when you add it. *(Pause.)*

Wow! The colors start to mix and make new colors! Keep going! I wonder what happens if you add another color. *(Pause.)* They mixed and made even more new colors. The heart on your paper is now full of colors and its beautiful! Let's clean our hands and let these dry."

After the Activity: *(Point to or hold up a paper.)* "Your beautiful papers say *(point)* **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!** And down here it says our Memory Verse. *How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,* Ephesians 3:18 NIV. Jesus loved the woman at the well even though she was from a different town. Jesus loves us too because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"

Getting Ready | 3-5's Small Group

GETTING READY

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

Social

1. Heavy Water

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Gallon jug of water, one per Small Group

Groups

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

1. Balloon Verse

Hear from God | Memory Verse Review

Made to Explore

What You Need:

- Red heart mylar balloon, one per Small Group
- Drinking straw, one per Small Group

5. Water Droplet Art

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Water Droplet Art" Activity Page, one per child
- Cardstock, one per child
- Paint brushes, one per child
- Clear, plastic punch cups, four for every three children
- Food coloring or liquid watercolor paints, one set per Small Group
- Water, one per Small Group
- Pipettes or eyedroppers, one for every child
- Plastic tablecloth, one per Small Group
- Permanent marker, one per Small Group
- Baby wipes, one package per Small Group
- *Optional: Paper towels*

What You Do:

- Print "Water Droplet Art" on cardstock, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Spread the tablecloth over the table.
- Fill four cups half full of water for every three children.
- For each set of cups, leave one cup as is. In one cup, add red food coloring/paint. In another cup, add yellow food coloring/paint. In the last cup add blue food coloring/paint.
- Place the sets of cups around the table spacing so three children can share.
- Place the paint brushes in the clear water and the pipettes in the colored water.

Supplies

Heavy Water | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

- | | Quantity |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 1. Gallon jug of water, | 1 |

Balloon Verse | Made to Explore *Uses Minimal Supplies

- | | Quantity |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 1. Red heart mylar balloon | 1 |
| 2. Drinking straw, | 1 |

Water Droplet Art | Made to Create

- | | Quantity |
|---|----------|
| 1. "Water Droplet Art" Activity Page | 1 |
| 2. Cardstock | 1 |
| 3. Paint brushes | 2 |
| 4. Clear, plastic punch cups (every three children) | 4 |
| 5. Food coloring or liquid watercolor paints | 1 |
| 6. Water | 1 |
| 7. Pipettes or eyedroppers | 1 |
| 8. Plastic tablecloth | 1 |
| 9. Permanent marker | 1 |
| 10. Baby wipes | Several |
| 11. Optional: Paper towels | 1 |

WEEK

FIVE

4-5's | W5

Today's Suggested Schedule—May 2026, Week 5

Bible Story: Matthew's Dinner • Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32

Jesus never stops caring.

Key Question: Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line: Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse: *How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.* • Ephesians 3:18 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.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Seat at the Table

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

What Foods Do You Eat?

Jesus Cares about Everyone

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

*Allergy Alert



Bible Story

Matthew's Dinner • Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32

Jesus never stops caring.

Key Question

Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line

Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse

How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. • Ephesians 3:18 NIV




15 min

Social

5 min

Seat at the Table | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

-  Chairs 1
-  Music player 1
-  Fun, upbeat music 1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set the chairs in a line back-to-back in an open space. Make sure to have one chair for every child.

During the Activity: Play the music and encourage children to dance or walk around the chairs. When the music stops, let everyone find a seat. In this game, no chairs will be removed. Continue playing as time and interest allow.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come stand around the chairs and let's play a game!"

During the Activity: "When you hear the music, I want you to dance or walk around the chairs going this way. (*Demonstrate.*) Ready, (*start the music*) let's go! (*Allow children to go around a time or two, then pause the music.*) The music stopped, find a seat. (*Pause.*) Fantastic! Stand up and let's play again! (*Repeat as time and interest allow.*) Hooray! Everyone found a seat!"

After the Activity: "In our Bible Story today, we're going to hear about a man named Matthew. He made some wrong choices, but Jesus loved him anyway and wanted to eat dinner with him. We'll learn that at the table with Jesus, there is a seat for everyone."

5 min

What Foods Do You Eat?* | Made to Think

What You Need

👤	Butcher Paper	1
👤	Washable markers	Several
👤	Optional: "Allergy Alert Poster", cardstock, period typical food to choose from: pita-style bread, fish: small, salted, or dried fish, olives, figs, dates, grapes, pomegranates, and cheese.	Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Cover the table with paper and place the markers on the table. *Optional: Print "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock and list the chosen items and post at the door.*

During the Activity: Talk about the foods the children think Matthew may have prepared for the dinner with Jesus and his friends. Draw pictures of the foods the children mention. Talk about the foods the kids like to eat. If a child says they like the same food Matthew prepared, let children circle that food. *Optional: Talk about each of the foods and let the children have a taste test.*

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come find a spot at the table!"

During the Activity: "Today in our Bible Story, Matthew invited a bunch of his friends to come have dinner with Jesus. What do you think Matthew prepared for dinner? I'll draw a picture of each of the foods you name. (Pause for children's suggestions and draw simple pictures. If needed, suggest or give clues of different food.) Wow! Look at all the food! Now tell me, what kind of food do you like? (Draw simple pictures of foods the children name.) Did you name any of the food that Matthew might have made for Jesus? (Circle any that apply.) Let me tell you what foods they may have had at Matthew's dinner. Pita-style bread which is flat. Small, salted fish or dried fish. Olives, figs, dates, grapes, pomegranates, and cheese. Have you ever had any of those foods? What are your favorites?"

After the Activity: "Jesus asked Matthew to come with Him and be a close friend! And Matthew got up right away and left his tax booth behind. He went home and prepared a festive meal for Jesus. Matthew was so excited that he even invited other tax collectors and friends, so they could meet Jesus too!





Jesus and the disciples sat down to eat with Matthew and all of Matthew's friends. It was a big party, and all of Matthew's friends got to spend time with Jesus. Jesus loved Matthew and his friends, even though they had done wrong things. Jesus loves us too, no matter what. He will never stop caring for us! Who does Jesus care about?

[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone! Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!"**

5 min

Jesus Cares About Everyone | Made to Create

What You Need

	"Jesus Cares About Everyone" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Crayons or washable markers	Several
	Permanent marker	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Jesus Cares About Everyone" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color the people on their paper. In the blank spot, ask children to draw themselves.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Everyone, come to the table and let's get creative!"

During the Activity: "We've been learning about the people who Jesus cares about. People in villages, towns, and countrysides. People who are sick, no matter what day of the week. People who have done bad things. People everywhere! Your paper has a lot of different people on it and Jesus cares about every one of them! Color each of the people you see on your paper. *(Pause.)* Great job! There is one space that is waiting for you to draw a really special person—draw you! *(Pause.)* Jesus cares about you because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!** What amazing pictures!"

After the Activity: "Jesus loved Matthew and his friends, even though they had done wrong things. Jesus loves us too, no matter what. Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"

Getting Ready | 3-5's Small Group

GETTING READY

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

Social

1. Seat at the Table

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Chairs, one per child
- Music player, one per Small Group
- Fun, upbeat music, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Set the chairs in a line back-to-back in an open, make sure to have one chair for every child.

Groups

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

3. What Foods Do You Eat?*

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Think

What You Need:

- Butcher Paper, one per Small Group
- Washable markers, several per Small Group
- *Optional: "Allergy Alert Poster", cardstock, period typical food to choose from: pita-style bread, fish: small, salted, or dried fish, olives, figs, dates, grapes, pomegranates, and cheese.*

What You Do:

- Cover the table with paper and place the markers on the table.
- *Optional: Print "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock and list the chosen items and post at the door.*

5. Jesus Cares About Everyone

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Jesus Cares About Everyone" Activity Page, one per child
- Cardstock, one per child
- Crayons or washable markers, several per child
- Permanent marker, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Jesus Cares About Everyone" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

Supplies

Seat at the Table | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. Chairs	1
2. Music player	1
3. Fun, upbeat music	1

What Foods Do You Eat?* | Made to Think

	Quantity
1. Butcher Paper	1
2. Washable markers	Several
3. Optional: "Allergy Alert Poster", cardstock, period typical food to choose from: pita-style bread, fish: small, salted, or dried fish, olives, figs, dates, grapes, pomegranates, and cheese.	Several

Jesus Cares About Everyone | Made to Create

	Quantity
1. "Jesus Cares About Everyone" Activity Page	1
2. Cardstock	1
3. Crayons or washable markers	Several
4. Permanent marker	1