

# JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

ONE

FEBRUARY 2019

SMALL GROUP

2

YEAR-OLDS



## first look™

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME



**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus loves me.

**JESUS AND THE CHILDREN**  
**LUKE 18:15-16**

**MEMORY VERSE**

“How wide and long and high  
and deep is the love of Christ.”

**EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV**

**KEY QUESTION**

Who loves you?

**BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus loves me.

**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my  
friend forever.

**PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience**

For Leaders Only  
Monthly Overview  
Create the Environment

**15**  
MIN

**SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction**

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.  
Come to Me  
Like a Bug  
Kids and Bugs

**10**  
MIN

**WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God**

Cool

**10**  
MIN

**STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways**

Bible Story  
Prayer

**25**  
MIN

**GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect**

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.  
Memory Verse with Motions  
Jesus and the Children  
Little Love Bugs  
Love Bug Headband

**HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience**

Going Home  
Parent Cue

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.

**JESUS AND THE CHILDREN**  
**LUKE 18:15-16**



## MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

## MEMORY VERSE

"How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

**EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV**

## KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

## BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves me.

## BASIC TRUTH

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### 1. COME TO ME

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Little People® figures, plush animals, and dolls

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Place the toys all around the activity area.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Say, "Come to me," and instruct the children to collect the toys and bring them to you. Repeat several times.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Look at all of the toys around the room. I want them to come to me."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Work together and collect all of the toys and bring them to me, please. I want them to come to me." (*Do activity.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Great job! In our Bible story today Jesus says, "Come to me," to a very special group of people. Let's get ready to hear our Bible story and find out who it was!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Bible story time by walking in front of the children and saying, "Come to me," to get them to follow you to the story area.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.

**JESUS AND THE CHILDREN**  
**LUKE 18:15-16**



## PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

## MEMORY VERSE

"How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

**EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV**

## KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

## BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves me.

## BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

### 2. LIKE A BUG

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Like a Bug" Activity Page, white cardstock, and scissors

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy the Activity Page onto the cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. You will have six separate cards. Place the cards in a stack face down.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Place the stack of cards in the activity area. Ask one child to draw a card and mimic the bug on the card as they come to you. (*Grasshopper: hop; Bee: buzz; Dragon Fly: walk quickly in zig-zag motion; Caterpillar: slide on belly; Butterfly: flap arms; Ladybug: crawl.*) When they get to you, ask them to sit next to you. If you run out of cards, simply shuffle the used ones and reuse them. Repeat the activity until all of the children are sitting next to you.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's be bugs!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** (*Pick a child to go first and have them draw a card.*) (*Pause.*) "You got a grasshopper! Now come to me like a grasshopper would. Hop to me, grasshopper! (*Pause.*) Nice work. Now you may sit next to me. (*Choose second child.*) Now you may draw a card. WOW! You got a bee. Buzz around as you come to me." (*Demonstrate.*) (*Continue and finish activity.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "You are awesome bugs! You all came to me just like a bug would. We are going to hear a story today about how Jesus wanted children to come to Him. I am so excited for our Bible story today!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Bible story time by pretending to be lightning bugs as you move to the story area.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.

**JESUS AND THE CHILDREN**  
**LUKE 18:15-16**



## EXPLORE

an activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

## MEMORY VERSE

"How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

**EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV**

## KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

## BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves me.

## BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

### 3. KIDS AND BUGS

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Little People children figures, plastic bugs, and a small bucket

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Place the figures and the bugs into the bucket.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Challenge the children to dump out the figures and bugs and sort them into two different piles. Be sure each child gets a turn to sort the bugs.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "We have a bucket with Little People children and bugs in it." (*Hold up.*)

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's dump out the bucket and work together to sort out the bugs and the children. Make a pile for the bugs and a separate pile for the children."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Great job! We are going to talk about children in our Bible story today. Are you ready for a true story from the Bible?" (*Pause.*)

**TRANSITION:** Move to Bible story time by chanting this month's Bottom Line, "Jesus loves me," as you move to the story area.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**HEAR  
FROM GOD**  
MEMORY VERSE  
REVIEW



**MOVE**

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus loves me.

**JESUS AND THE CHILDREN**  
**LUKE 18:15-16**

**1. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Say the memory verse and do the following motions in front of the children.

How wide (*hold arms out wide*) and long (*hold arms out vertically*) and high (*jump as high as you can*) and deep (*pretend to dig with a shovel*) is the love (*hug yourself*) of Christ (*point up*), Ephesians 3:18. (*Hold hands open like a book.*)

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Say the verse again with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "I am going to say our new memory verse today. Everyone watch me! How wide (*hold arms out wide*) and long (*hold arms out vertically*) and high (*jump as high as you can*) and deep (*pretend to dig with a shovel*) is the love (*hug yourself*) of Christ (*point up*), Ephesians 3:18." (*Hold hands open like a book.*)

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Now let's do it all together! Are you ready? How wide (*hold arms out wide*) and long (*hold arms out vertically*) and high (*jump as high as you can*) and deep (*pretend to dig with a shovel*) is the love (*hug yourself*) of Christ (*point up*), Ephesians 3:18." (*Hold hands open like a book.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Great job! Our memory verse tells us that Jesus **LOVES** us so much! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"

**MEMORY VERSE**

"How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

**EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV**

**KEY QUESTION**

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**TALK**  
**ABOUT GOD**  
BIBLE STORY  
REVIEW



**CREATE**

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus loves me.

**JESUS AND THE CHILDREN**  
LUKE 18:15-16

**MEMORY VERSE**

"How wide and long and high  
and deep is the love of Christ."

**EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV**

**KEY QUESTION**

Who loves you?

**BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus loves me.

**BASIC TRUTH**

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friend forever.

**2. JESUS AND THE CHILDREN**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Children" Activity Page, white cardstock, scissors, yellow inkpads, and wet wipes

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy the Activity Page onto the cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. Each child will need one half page.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Help the children press their index finger into the inkpad and make fingerprints all around the picture of Jesus to represent children.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Wipe messy fingers with the wet wipes.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "We heard a wonderful Bible story about how much Jesus loves us!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Jesus loves everyone! Jesus loves children! In our Bible story we talked about how Jesus wanted the little children to come and talk to Him. That is so cool! (*Give each child an Activity Page.*) Here is a picture of Jesus. We are going to use our fingers to put children around Jesus." (*Do activity.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Awesome work! Jesus loves everyone! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**LIVE  
FOR GOD  
APPLICATION  
ACTIVITY**



**MOVE**

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus loves me.

**JESUS AND THE CHILDREN  
LUKE 18:15-16**

**MEMORY VERSE**

"How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

**EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV**

**KEY QUESTION**

Who loves you?

**BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus loves me.

**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**3. LITTLE LOVE BUGS**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Have the children stand in front of you.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Ask the children to think of a bug and then act like that bug as they come to you. Repeat several times.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "You are my little love bugs!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Think of a bug. It can be any bug! When I say, 'Come to me,' act like that bug as you come to me. If you are a bee, you would fly and say, 'Buzz.' Or you can be a caterpillar and slide on your tummy! Are you ready to be love bugs?" *(Pause and do activity.)*

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "You are awesome LOVE bugs! I love all of you, and so does Jesus! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

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HOME

25 MINUTES

**LIVE  
FOR GOD  
APPLICATION  
ACTIVITY**



**CREATE**

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus loves me.

**JESUS AND THE CHILDREN  
LUKE 18:15-16**

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**4. LOVE BUG HEADBAND**

Visit First Look's February 2019 Pinterest Board to see the inspiration for this activity: <https://www.pinterest.com/firstlookcurr/february-2019-love-bugs/>

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Headband Label" Activity Page, Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent, yellow sentence strips (*one per child*), white construction paper, black construction paper, black pipe cleaners (*two per child*), black permanent marker, scissors, clear tape, and glue sticks

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy the "Head Band Label" Activity Page onto the label paper. Cut four-inch tall ovals out of the white construction paper. Each child will need two ovals. Cut two-inch circles out of the black construction paper. Each child will need two circles.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Give each child two ovals and two black circles. Encourage the children to glue a black circle inside each oval. These will be the bug's eyes. Give each child a sentence strip and help them glue the bottom of the eyes to the top of the middle of the sentence strip. The top of the eyes will hang off of the sentence strip at the top. Use the marker to write "Jesus loves [child's name]" onto the sentence strip under the eyes. Tape the end of two pipe cleaners to the back of the sentence strip on each side of the eyes. Curl the top of the pipe cleaner to look like a bug antenna. Place the sentence strip around the child's head and use the tape to secure it in place.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Place the label on the back of the headband and encourage the children to wear their headbands home.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's make love bug headbands!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** (*Do activity.*) "Awesome job! Now let's put the bugs on our head! We are LOVE BUGS! Jesus loves us!" (*Fit the sentence strip around the child's head.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Now we are love bugs and can wear our headbands to tell everyone that Jesus LOVES us! Jesus loves everyone! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"