

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

ONE

FEBRUARY 2019

LARGE GROUP
RUG

3-5

YEAR-OLDS



first look™

TEAM

CEO

Reggie Joiner

DIRECTOR OF MESSAGING

Kristen Ivy

DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL STRATEGY

Brittany Compton Robertson

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM

Kathy Hill

DESIGN AND BRAND MANAGER

Sharon van Rossum

CREATIVE TEAM

Brittany Compton Robertson

Kathy Hill

Autumn Ward

Ashley Hiers

Donna High

Sharon van Rossum

Deb Springer

McKenzie Causey

WRITERS

Emily Meredith

Kathy Hill

USER AGREEMENT

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved.

These resources are intended to be downloaded and printed for use by the subscribing entity only and may not be electronically transferred to or duplicated by other non-subscribing entities. Any unauthorized reproduction of this material or incorporation into a new work is a direct violation of US copyright laws. ©2018 The reThink Group. All rights reserved. First Look® and the First Look® logo are trademarks of The reThink Group.

“STATEMENT OF FAITH” USER AGREEMENT

Orange gladly grants permission to churches, schools, and other licensees to tailor First Look® materials to fit their unique leadership requirements, locale and format preferences, and physical environment needs. However, if you wish to edit the content substantively, including Bible stories, learning activities, scripts, and any other content in which biblical principles and concepts are presented, you are obligated to do so within the doctrinal guidelines we've expressed in our Statement of Faith.

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.
Color Search
Spots
Kid Search

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
Jesus Loves
Jesus Loves Me, Yes, He Does!
Bug on My Head
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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.

Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive worship and the Bible story. The Rug Script is written for those who pull their children to a rug (or area) to one side of their preschool space to tell the Bible story. If you gather your preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible story, you may benefit from using the Stage Script.

WORSHIP

Use the full mix of the monthly song provided with the curriculum to lead your preschoolers in worship. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Ephesians 3:18. You will need a music player and this month's worship song, "Cool," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video is available on the Dance Moves DVD, "Hip Hip Hooray!" or in your media package (if you subscribe).

LEADER: "Hello friends! It's love month, and I couldn't be more excited. Yes, we are going to spend this month learning about someone who loves us SO MUCH. (Stretch arms out to sides.) Who do you think it is? (Pause.) Yes! It's Jesus! **Jesus loves me** and Jesus loves you. When I ask you this very important question, '**Who loves you?**' you say, '**Jesus loves me.**' Let's try it. **Who loves you?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus loves me."

LEADER: "Yes! You guys are AMAZING! Jesus does love you so very much. And that's pretty cool. Hey! That's the name of our new song. Are you ready to sing it with me? Everyone stand up and help me sing and dance.

(Lead children in singing "Cool," this month's worship song.)

"Great singing, everyone. Jesus is cool, and Jesus loves you and **Jesus loves me. Who loves you?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus loves me."

LEADER: "That's right! **Jesus loves me.** Our memory verse tells us that Jesus loves us A LOT. Like, He loves us a lot a lot. Right here in the Bible it says: 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.) Let's try that together."

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "How wide (hold arms out wide) and long (hold



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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.*) (*Repeat several times.*)

LEADER: "Great job, everyone! Yes! Jesus loves us so much.

STORY

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be "told" and not "read." Advanced preparation is necessary.

First Look offers weekly introductory sketches and Bible stories on the DVD titled "Wonder, Look at God's Story." This DVD is available for purchase at OrangeStore.org or as part of your monthly Media Package.

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible

LEADER: "Oh, hey, friends, I'm [LEADER's name]. It's great to see you! Raise your hand if you have ever gotten a valentine. (*Pause.*) Valentine cards are fun because people make them to give to each other to show how much they love them.

"I just love a day when people show love to each other. But you know what? Even if your mailbox was full of a million, billion, TRILLION valentines, there is Someone who loves you even more than all the valentines in the world. It's true! Let me tell you a story about it.

(Open the Bible.)

"This true story from the Bible begins with a big crowd of people. They all came to see something. What do you think they came to see? Do you think they came to watch a movie?

"No. It's better than a movie. Maybe they came for a birthday party!

"No, it's even better than a birthday party!

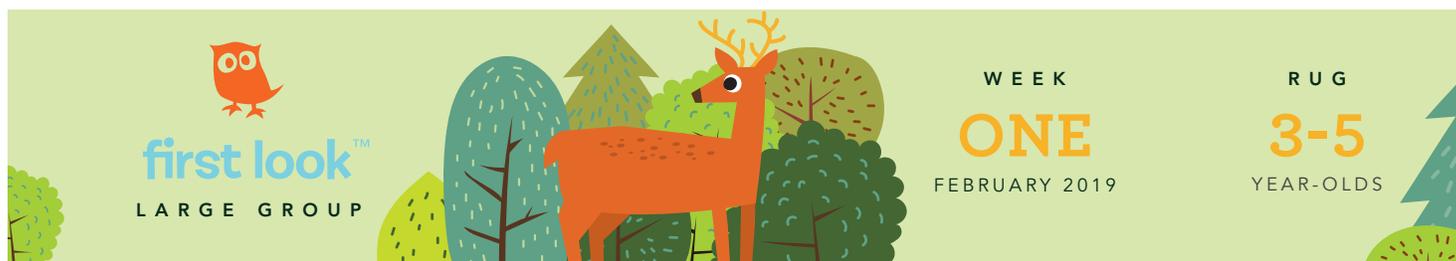
"Lots and lots of people came to listen to Jesus! I told you it was better than a movie or a birthday party!

"Jesus, God's Son, was telling stories about what God is like and who is important to Him. Let's look for who is important to God. Get out your pretend binoculars like this.

(Make circles with your hands and hold them up to your eyes to make pretend binoculars.)

"Good job! Keep holding your binoculars up to your eyes like this, and let's see who is important to God. I see Small Group Leaders. Wave your hand if you're a Small Group Leader. Can you see the Small Group Leaders through your binoculars? Small Group Leaders are important to God."

"Wow! So many important people. Let's keep looking. Look through your binoculars at the person beside you.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

(Pause.) Now look at the person on the other side of you. Who do you see? (Pause.) Yep. Children, just like you. Do you know Jesus thinks children are just as important as grown-ups? It's true! Put your binoculars down and let me tell you what happened to the children in our Bible story.

"Like I said before, lots and lots of people had come to hear what Jesus was saying. Some children were going up to Jesus too. But Jesus' friends, the disciples, stopped the children. The disciples wanted the children to go back because they didn't think Jesus would want to see the children. Oh, no!

"Hmm. What do you think happened next? Do you think Jesus wanted the children to come see Him, or did He send them away?

(Give a thumbs up to the children.)

"Give a thumbs up if you think Jesus wanted the children to come see Him.

(Give a thumbs down.)

"Give a thumbs down if you think He wanted the children to go away.

(Pause and look around at the children.)

"I see a lot of thumbs up!"

(Give a thumbs up and continue.)

"You're right! Jesus wanted the children to come see Him. He told His disciples: Let the little children come to me (Luke 18:16 NIV).

"Children are very important to Jesus. That means YOU (point to children) are very important to Jesus. Jesus loves you more than a million, billion, TRILLION valentines, and if you were in a crowd full of important grown-ups, He would hold His arms out wide and say to you, 'Come to me!' Why? Because Jesus loves you A LOT!

"So, when I ask you this month, 'Who loves you?' I want you to say, 'Jesus loves me!' Ready? Who loves you?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus loves me!"

LEADER: "Who loves you?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus loves me!"

LEADER: "You got it! Now let's put our hands together and close our eyes to pray."

PRAYER

LEADER: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to show us how important children are. Help us to love all children and treat them the way Jesus treats them, like they are loved more than a million, billion, TRILLION valentines. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."