

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

THREE

APRIL 2019

SMALL GROUP

2

YEAR-OLDS



first look™

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME



BIBLE STORY

God sent Jesus to be my friend forever.

EASTER
MATTHEW 26:20-30;
27:45-50; 28:1-7

MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times."

PROVERBS 17:17, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who is your friend?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is my friend.

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.
Bubble Pop
One, Two, Three
Stone

10
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Doesn't Matter

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.
Friendly Verse
Retell Hop
Happy
Jesus in the Tomb

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue



This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.

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15 MINUTES

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MOVE

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

1. BUBBLE POP

WHAT YOU NEED: Bubble solution and a bubble wand

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Guide the children to stand in front of you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Blow bubbles and encourage the children to pop them. Tell the children that all of the bubbles are gone but they will come back. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's blow bubbles!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Blow bubbles.*) "WOW! Look at how many bubbles we have. Let's pop them all! (*Pop bubbles.*) Oh, no! The bubbles are all gone. Don't worry. They will come back! (*Blow more bubbles.*) Yay! They came back!" (*Repeat several times.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The bubbles came back! We are going to hear an amazing Bible story today about someone who went away and came back. I am so excited!"

TRANSITION: Move to Bible story time by telling the children that you are leaving to go the story area, but you will be back.

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PLAY

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

2. ONE, TWO, THREE

WHAT YOU NEED: "1, 2, 3" Activity Pages, white cardstock, and six pom-poms

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the Activity Pages onto the cardstock. Place the pages in order in the activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Place the pom-poms near the pages. Invite the children to look at the dots on each page and place a pom-pom on each dot. Count the pom-poms on each page with the children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "There are numbers on the pages on the table." (Point.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "The numbers are one, two, and three. (Point at each as you count.) There are dots on each page. Let's put pom-poms on the dots. (Do activity.) Great job! Now let's count and see how many pom-poms are on each page. (Point as you count the dots on each page.) Great job!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The number three is very special in our Bible story today. Let's get ready to hear our TRUE Bible story!"

TRANSITION: Move to Bible story time by counting to three over and over as you move to the story area.

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EXPLORE

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

3. STONE

Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" and post it at the door to your room.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster," white cardstock, small Dixie® cups, scissors, and Play-Doh®

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on white cardstock and hang it on the door. Use the scissors to cut a half oval into one side of the top of the cup. When you turn the cup upside down the cutout should look like a door to the inside of the cup. You will need one cup per three children. Cut the doors in the cups in different sizes. You will have some cups that have large doors and some cups with smaller doors.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Place the cups in the middle of the activity area and give the children some Play-Doh. Challenge the children to roll the Play-Doh into a ball to make a stone to block the door on a cup. Challenge the children to make stones for all of the different sizes of doors.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Look at the cute little cups! (Point.) They look like they have different-sized doors in them."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's use our Play-Doh to make a ball (demonstrate) to look like a stone to close the door (demonstrate). We will have to make different size stones to fit the different size doors!" (Do activity.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job! The stones do a good job to close the doors. (Point.) We are going to hear a story about where a stone was used as a door too! I am so excited about our Bible story today!"

TRANSITION: Move to Bible story time by counting the doors that you pass as you move to the story area.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**HEAR
FROM GOD**
MEMORY VERSE
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

God sent Jesus to be my friend forever.

EASTER
MATTHEW 26:20-30;
27:45-50; 28:1-7

1. FRIENDLY VERSE

WHAT YOU NEED: "Friendly Verse" Activity Page, yellow cardstock, scissors, and smiley face stickers or stamps

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Friendly Verse" on cardstock and cut in half on the dotted line. Each child will need one half page.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child an Activity Page and 8-10 smiley face stickers. Help the children place the stickers all around the verse on the page.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Say the memory verse with the children.

MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times."

PROVERBS 17:17, NIRV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Our memory verse tells us that a friend loves at all times. Jesus loves us like that. He is our friend! Jesus wants to be our friend forever."

KEY QUESTION

Who is your friend?

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (Give each child an Activity Page and the stickers.) "We will put smiley face stickers all around the memory verse to show that Jesus wants to be our friend forever." (Do activity.)

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is my friend.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job! Let's say our memory verse together. A friend loves at all times, Proverbs 17:17. Nice job! I am so glad that Jesus is my friend and your friend too! **Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!**"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

TALK
ABOUT GOD
BIBLE STORY
REVIEW



MOVE

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

BIBLE STORY

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EASTER
MATTHEW 26:20-30;
27:45-50; 28:1-7

2. RETELL HOP

WHAT YOU NEED: "Retell Hop" Activity Pages, white cardstock, and floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the Activity Pages onto the cardstock. Tape the pages in a line about one foot apart from each other in the following order: sad face, one, two, three, happy face.

MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times."

PROVERBS 17:17, NIRV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Guide the children to stand behind the sad face Activity Page. Begin to retell the Bible story. Lead the children to jump on the sad face when you talk about Jesus being taken away and put in the tomb. Then count out the days and instruct the children to jump to each number as you say it. Then when you talk about Jesus coming back, the children can jump to the happy face. Be sure each child has a turn to jump on the Activity Pages.

KEY QUESTION

Who is your friend?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We heard an amazing Bible story today. It started out sad and we counted to three and then our story ended VERY HAPPILY!"

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is my friend.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone stand near our sad face. (Point.) Jesus said goodbye to His friends but told them that He would be back! Some very angry men came and took Jesus away. They hurt Jesus and He died. That is so SAD. Everyone stand by the sad face. (Pause.) They put Jesus in a tomb and closed it with a heavy stone. ONE day went by. Jump to the one. (Point) Then TWO days went by. Jump to the number two. (Point.) And then THREE days went by. Jump to the number three. (Point.) And then something AMAZING happened! JESUS CAME BACK! Our good friend Jesus came back! That made everyone super HAPPY! Everyone jump to the happy face! YAY!"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Nice job! Our good friend Jesus came back just like He said He would. **Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!**"

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

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EASTER
MATTHEW 26:20-30;
27:45-50; 28:1-7

MEMORY VERSE

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KEY QUESTION

Who is your friend?

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

3. HAPPY

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

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

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Teach the children the following song and motions.

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands (*clap, clap*)
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands (*clap, clap*)
If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it (*smile*)
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands (*clap, clap*)

If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet (*stomp, stomp*)
If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet (*stomp, stomp*)
If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it (*smile*)
If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet (*stomp, stomp*)

If you're happy and you know it, shout, hooray (*shout "hooray"*)
If you're happy and you know it, shout, hooray (*shout "hooray"*)
If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it (*smile*)
If you're happy and you know it, shout, hooray (*shout "hooray"*)

If you're happy and you know it, do all three (*clap, stomp, and shout*)
If you're happy and you know it, do all three (*clap, stomp, and shout*)
If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it (*smile*)
If you're happy and you know it, do all three (*clap, stomp, and shout*)

Repeat as desired.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to learn a fun song about how happy we are that our good friend Jesus came back."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Listen and watch me while we sing the song."
(*Teach song and motions.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job! We are so happy that Jesus is our friend and that He came back. **Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!**"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

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

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EASTER
MATTHEW 26:20-30;
27:45-50; 28:1-7

4. JESUS IN THE TOMB

WHAT YOU NEED: "Jesus in the Tomb" and "Tomb Label" Activity Pages, white cardstock, Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent, craft sticks, clear tape, paper cups, crayons, and an X-ACTO® knife

(NOTE: When using an X-ACTO knife, it is best to use it when the children are not present. Be sure to always keep the knife out of the reach of little hands.)

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Jesus in the Tomb" Activity Page onto the cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. Each child will need one cutout from the Activity Page. Copy the "Tomb Label" Activity Page onto the label paper (one label per child). Use the X-ACTO knife to cut a 3/4-inch slit in the bottom of the cup.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a Jesus cutout and crayons. Ask the children to color the cutout. Help the children tape the craft stick to the back of the cutout. The top of the craft stick should be toward the bottom of the cutout.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Have the children put a label on the outside of their cups. Help the children place the stick and the cutout inside the cup and slide the stick into the slit. Help the children move the stick up and down to move Jesus in and out of the tomb.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus came back! We are going to make a craft that shows that HE CAME BACK!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "The cup will be the tomb. (Hold up.) (Give the children the Jesus cutout and the crayons.) First let's color Jesus. (Pause.) Perfect! Now we can put Him in the tomb and watch Him come back!" (Finish activity.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That is so awesome! You can use your craft to show your family that our good friend Jesus CAME BACK! **Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!**"

MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times."

PROVERBS 17:17, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

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