

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

ONE

APRIL 2019

LARGE GROUP
RUG

3-5

YEAR-OLDS



first look™

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME



BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a good friend.

WASHING FEET
JOHN 13:3-17

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.
Follow the Feet
Water
Washing Feet

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.
Memory Verse with Motions
Feet Tracing
Jesus Is My Friend
Where's the Water?
Circle of Friends
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue



PRELUDE

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10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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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 Proverbs 17:17. You will need a CD player and this month's worship song, "Doesn't Matter," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves are available on the Hip Hip Hooray! Dance Moves DVD or in your monthly media package, if you subscribe.

LEADER: "Hello, friends! It is such an exciting month! We get to celebrate the best day ever this month! Do you know what day that is? (Pause.) Yes! It's Easter. Easter is special because that's the day when Jesus showed everyone that He wants to be their friend FOREVER. Isn't that awesome? Jesus is everyone's friend. He's your friend. He's my friend. When I ask you this very important question, 'Who is your friend?' you say, 'Jesus is my friend.' Let's try it. **Who is your friend?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus is my friend."

LEADER: "Yes, He is! And we have a brand new song this month that is about Jesus. It doesn't matter where we are or what we're doing, Jesus is our friend.

(Lead children in singing "Doesn't Matter," this month's worship song.)

"Great singing, everyone. Jesus is your friend, and **Jesus is my friend. Who is your friend?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus is my friend."

LEADER: "That's right! **Jesus is my friend**, and He loves us so very much. Our memory verse tells us just that. Right here in the Bible it says: A friend (*hook your pointer fingers together*) loves (*hug yourself*) at all times (*stretch your arms out to each side with your palms facing up as you turn in a circle*), Proverbs 17:17. (*Open your hands like a book.*) Do that with me."

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "A friend (*hook your pointer fingers together*) loves (*hug yourself*) at all times (*stretch your arms out to each side with your palms*



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HOME

10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

facing up as you turn in a circle), Proverbs 17:17." (Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat several times.)

LEADER: "Great job, everyone! Jesus is your friend. **Who is your friend?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "**Jesus is my friend.**"

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: "Hello everyone. I'm so excited because I'm here to tell you a true story from the Bible.

(Hold up a Bible.)

"Would you like to hear the story? (Pause.) Great!

(Open the Bible.)

"Today's story is about a good friend. Can you guess who the good friend is? I'll give you a hint. He's the best friend EVER!

(Pause for the children to guess.)

"Jesus! You're right! Do you know how I know Jesus is a good friend? Because of something He did to show His friends how much He cared for them.

"One night, Jesus was having dinner with His friends. While they were sitting around the table, Jesus did something that most people would never do.

"Jesus got a bowl and poured water in it. Pretend you have a bottle of water and you're pouring it into a bowl. Here we go! Pour your water!

(Pour water into your bowl.)

"Good job! Then Jesus took the water and washed His friends' feet. He went from friend to friend to friend. Pretend you're washing your feet. Make sure you scrub away all the dirt!

(Pretend you are washing your feet.)



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10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

"After Jesus washed each of His friends' feet, He used a towel to dry them off.

"Pretend you are drying your feet with a towel.

(Pretend you are drying your feet.)

"Now, washing your feet or your friends' clean feet is not that hard. But imagine what Jesus' friends' feet were like. You see, a long time ago, when Jesus lived on Earth, people wore sandals and they walked everywhere. That means their feet would get VERY dirty. If they walked in a mud puddle, all of that mud would dry on their feet and it would be yucky! Can you imagine all the dirt under their toenails? That's what Jesus' friends' feet were like when He started washing them!

"Would you want to wash those dirty feet? *(Pause.)* No. Most people wouldn't. But Jesus did.

"Jesus is such a good friend. And the best part is Jesus is your friend, too! So, when I ask you, '**Who is your friend?**' I want you to say, '**Jesus is my friend.**' Let's try it. **Who is your friend?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus is my friend."

LEADER: "Again! Who is your friend?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus is my friend."

LEADER: "Yes, He is! Jesus loves you so much, He is willing to do things other people don't want to do. He'll do the hard jobs, the stinky jobs, and the not-so-fun jobs, all because He loves you SO much."

LEADER: "It's time to pray now. Let's put our hands in our laps and close our eyes."

PRAYER

LEADER: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend. Thank You that Jesus will do the hard, dirty jobs because He loves us so much. Help us to be a good friend like Jesus. We love You. In Jesus' name, amen."