



JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER



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BASIC TRUTH

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.

KEY QUESTION

WHO DOES JESUS LOVE?

BOTTOM LINE

JESUS LOVES EVERYONE.

MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other as I have loved you." John 15:12, NIV

BIBLE STORY FOCUS

Jesus loves us when no one else does. The Unloved Woman
• John 8:2-11

MAKE IT FUN

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as your preschoolers arrive. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

- Pom of My Heart
- Two of Hearts
- Box of Love

MAKE IT TRUE (LARGE GROUP)

- Worship
- Bible Story

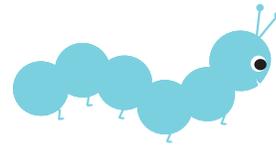
MAKE IT STICK

These activities are designed to help preschoolers understand and remember today's Bible story and Bottom Line. Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each, then switch groups and repeat the activities.

- Love Marks
- The Unloved Woman
- Find a Friend
- Love Is in the Air



Check out an example or inspiration for this activity at [Pinterest.com/firstlookcurr](https://www.pinterest.com/firstlookcurr)



MAKE IT FUN

Activities designed to draw children into the classroom and introduce vocabulary and concepts needed for the Bible story.



MOVEMENT

An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn and grow.

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POM OF MY HEART

"Pom of My Heart" is an activity that introduces this week's Bible story while children use cognitive and gross motor skills.

WHAT YOU NEED: Heart cutouts from "Fill the Bucket" in Week 1, plastic containers or bowls, tape, and pompoms (*colors need to match the heart cutouts*)

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Tape one heart to each container. Only use one heart of each color. Place containers in a line with the hearts all facing the same way. Scatter the pompoms.

During the Activity: Have kids collect the pompoms and place them in the correct containers. Repeat as many times as desired.

After the Activity: Make sure all the pompoms are collected. Sit down around the containers and introduce the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Wowie! Look at all the pompoms on the floor! They match the hearts on the containers. When I say go I want you to pick up a pompom and put it in the container with the matching color heart."

During the Activity: "And ... go! (*Pause.*) Make sure the heart matches the color of your pompom! Keep picking up those pompoms. (*Pause.*) Wow! Great job, friends!" (*Repeat as many times as desired.*)

After the Activity: "That was so much fun! Come sit down with me. What color hearts do we have? (*Pick up or point to each heart.*) Super job! Hearts remind me of love! We are going to hear another story about love today!"



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GAME

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

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TWO OF HEARTS

"Two of Hearts" is an activity that introduces this week's Bible story while encouraging kids to use their fine motor skills and memory skills.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Two" from the Activity Pages found on the Website, cardstock, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy "Two" on cardstock and cut out.

During the Activity: Mix up the cards and place them face down. Kids take turns turning over two cards at a time to find the matches. Cards can be kept face up once they've been turned over. Talk about the different faces. Repeat as many times as desired.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Hey friends, come sit with me! I have a card game for us to play today."

During the Activity: "These cards have a face drawn on them. Some are smiley faces and some are frowny faces. We are going to flip one card over at a time until we find a match. Let's get started! (*Encourage each child to flip a card over.*) Look for the matches. (*Pause.*) You found all the matches! Great job! Let's play again!" (*Repeat as many times as desired.*)

After the Activity: "What kind of faces do you see on these cards? (*Pause.*) Smiling faces, frowning faces, and silly faces—all kinds of faces. And do you know what? (*Pause.*) There is someone who loves us when we are happy, sad, mad, glad, and bad, and we'll find out who in our Bible story today!"



MAKE IT FUN

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INVESTIGATION/ROLE PLAY

An activity that channels either a preschooler's innate curiosity or desire to play dress up into a discussion of concepts crucial to the lesson.

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BOX OF LOVE

"Box of Love" is an activity that introduces this week's Bible story while encouraging kids to find the surprise at the bottom of the sensory bin.

WHAT YOU NEED: Heart confetti, foam hearts, colored pompoms, a locker mirror, duct tape, and a plastic bin (*Note: Keep this sensory bin for Week 4.*)

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Tape the locker mirror to the bottom of the bin and dump in all the confetti, foam hearts, and pompoms.

During the Activity: Tell the kids that there is a surprise in the box and when they find it, they'll see who Jesus loves.

After the Activity: Talk about who the kids saw in the bottom of the box of love. Introduce the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Hey friends, come sit with me. I have a special box. It's a box of love."

During the Activity: "We're going to take turns looking in the box. Dig around. There's somebody in the box that Jesus loves. Can you find him or her?" (*Once that child found him/herself, move to the next child.*)

After the Activity: "Who did you see in the box of love? (*Pause.*) You all saw your own face in the box of love! Jesus loves you and you and me. Jesus loves everyone and that is what we are going to learn in our Bible story today."



MAKE IT STICK

Activities designed to reinforce the Bible story and bottom line.



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

An activity that encourages preschoolers to learn the monthly memory verse.

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LOVE MARKS

"Love Marks" is an activity that helps kids recite this month's Memory Verse while stamping hearts on their papers.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Love Marks" from the Activity Pages found on the Website, cardstock, heart stamps, red and pink washable inkpads, a marker, and wet wipes

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy "Love Marks" on cardstock, one per child.

During the Activity: Say this month's Memory Verse and kids will stamp hearts on each word of the verse and all over their papers. Repeat as many times as desired. Write kids' names on their papers.

After the Activity: Say the Bottom Line together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Come sit with me at the table. (Pause.) Look at your papers. These are the words to the Memory Verse we've been learning. As we say the verse, I want you to stamp the word. Ready?" (Pause.)

During the Activity: "Get your stamp ready! (Kids stamp on every word.) 'Love each other as I have loved you,' John 15;12. Great job, friends! Let's say it again and this time you can change colors and stamp anywhere on your page. (Repeat as many times as desired.) Super job!" (Write names on papers and wipe hands if needed.)

After the Activity: "Today we heard another story from the Bible about how Jesus loved someone, this someone was a woman who had done some bad things and no one wanted to be her friend. But we know that Jesus loves everyone, even if we've done something bad. **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"



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BIBLE STORY REVIEW

An activity that reviews the entire Bible story in a fun and interactive way allowing preschoolers that repetition they crave.

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THE UNLOVED WOMAN

"The Unloved Woman" is an activity that retells the Bible story while the children add face stickers to their paper.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Unloved Woman" from the Activity Pages found on the Website, copy paper, happy and sad face stickers, and a marker

You can see materials suggestion for this craft on the February 2015 Pinterest board found on the First Look Curriculum's Pinterest page: <https://www.pinterest.com/firstlookcurr/>

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy "Unloved Woman" on copy paper, one per child.

During the Activity: Retell the Bible story. Kids will add the face stickers to the empty circles on their paper. Write their names at the bottom.

After the Activity: Say the Bottom Line.

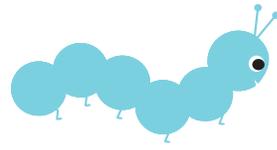
WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "In our Bible story today we heard a story about a lady who had no friends because of the bad choices she made."

During the Activity: "This lady was really sad. She had made a lot of bad choices and done a lot of wrong things. No one wanted to be her friend. In fact, everyone wanted to be mean to her and hurt her. Do you think Jesus wanted to hurt her? (Pause.) Of course He didn't! Jesus didn't want to hurt her! He wanted to be her friend forever.

"Jesus saw the men in that angry crowd who wanted hurt her. Jesus saved her from that angry crowd. On the count of three, everyone shout hooray! One, two three! HOORAY! Jesus told the woman that He loved her just the way she was. In fact, He loved her so much that he wanted her to stop making bad choices and do things His way instead. This story tells us that there is no person that Jesus doesn't love.

"Look at your paper. What do you see on it? (Pause.) A heart! That's right! And it's



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made out of circles. We are going to put some stickers in the circles. They are face stickers. Some are smiling, some are frowning, and some look silly. But you know what? Jesus loves us if we are happy, sad, and silly! Jesus loves me and you! Put these face stickers in the circles on your paper." (*Write children's names on their papers.*)

After the Activity: "Jesus loves you when you follow all the rules AND when you mess up. He loves you when you are good or bad. Jesus loves everyone. **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone.**"



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FIND A FRIEND

"Find a Friend" is an activity that encourages kids to use their gross motor and balance skills.

WHAT YOU NEED: Painter's tape, this month's music, and a music player

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Make a large heart outline on the floor with the painter's tape. Use the heart from Week 2 if possible.

During the Activity: Stand on the heart. Play the music and have the kids walk along the heart while following the leader. When the music stops, kids turn to a friend and give them a high five, a handshake, or a hug. Repeat as many times as desired.

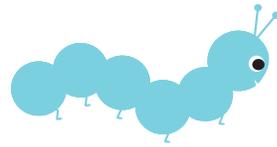
After the Activity: Sit down on the heart and say the Bottom Line together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Hey friends, look at this great big heart! Come over and find a spot here on the heart."

During the Activity: "I want you to follow me around the heart as the music is playing and when it stops, we're going to freeze, turn to the friend beside us, and give them a high five, handshake, or hug. When the music starts again we'll start moving again. (Repeat as many times as desired.) That was super fun! Now everyone sit down right where you are on the heart."

After the Activity: "That was so much fun, friends! Jesus loves you and you and you (point to all the kids) and me, and He wants to be your friend and my friend forever. **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone.**"



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CRAFT

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

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LOVE IS IN THE AIR 

"Love Is in the Air" is an activity that reintroduces the Bible story and Bottom Line while children use their fine motor skills to make a heart-shaped windsock.

WHAT YOU NEED: "In the Air" from the Activity Pages found on the Website, red or pink cardstock, multiple colors of crepe paper streamers, scissors, yarn, glue sticks, a hole punch, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy "In the Air" on cardstock and cut out, one per child. Cut streamers in 12-inch lengths, three per child. Cut yarn in 12-inch lengths, one per child. Punch hole at the top, center of the heart. Thread the yarn through the hole in the heart and knot to make a hanger.

During the Activity: Talk about the Bible story as kids glue streamers to their hearts. Ask them whom they love and write their answers on each of the streamers. Write kids' names on their hearts.

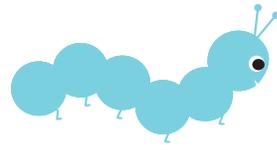
After the Activity: Say the Bottom Line together and put wind socks aside to dry.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "We learned in our story that even when no one else likes us or wants to be our friend, Jesus always does. Jesus loves us all the time!"

During the Activity: "Everybody has a heart and three streamers. I want you to glue the streamers to your heart like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Now tell me: Who do YOU love? (*Pause.*) I'm going to write that on this streamer. (*Pause.*) Who else do you love? (*Pause.*) I'm going to write that on this one. Who else? One more. (*Pause.*) I'm going to write that on this one. (*Hold up the heart.*) On everyone's heart, it says, '**Jesus loves everyone.**' He loves you and you and me and (*read some of the answers from the kids!*) Jesus loves each and every one of us! Jesus loved the woman today when no one else did and He wanted to be her friend even after she did some bad things. Because Jesus wanted to be her friend and He loved her, she



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decided to do good things and not bad things. Because Jesus wanted to be her friend, that changed how she acted. Now you can take these home and every time you look at them you can remember that Jesus loves you and all of your family and friends—even the lady at the grocery store!" *(Write names on papers and take up.)*

After the Activity: "I'm so glad that Jesus wants to be my friend and your friend forever. Jesus loves me and you and you. *(Point to all the kids.)* **Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone.** Say it again. **Jesus loves everyone.**"