

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.



Editor in Chief: Kathy Hill

Copy Editor: Dana Wilkerson

Curriculum Writer: Donna High

Illustrator: Jodi Blackwell

Graphic Designers: Sharon van Rossum, David Hill

FL Creative Team: Brittany Compton-Robertson, Kathy Hill, Autumn Ward, Ashley Hiers, Donna High, Mary Beth Brannan, Sharon van Rossum, McKenzie Causey

Chief Executive Officer: Reggie Joiner

Chief Operating Officer: Reggie Goodin

Executive Director: Brittany Compton-Robertson

Technical and Web Support: Hadley Brandt

Partner Support: Deb Springer

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BASIC TRUTH

JESUS WANTS TO BE
MY FRIEND FOREVER.

KEY QUESTION

WHO LOVES YOU?

BOTTOM LINE

JESUS LOVES ME.

MEMORY VERSE

"How wide and long and high
and deep is the love of Christ."
Ephesians 3:18, NIV

BIBLE STORY FOCUS

Jesus wants to spend time with me.
Mary and Martha • Luke 10:38-42

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.

- Big
- Stack It Up
- 🚫 • Dough Food

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.

- Memory Verse with Motions
- Cook and Retell
- My God Is So Big
- Tissue Heart



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



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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BIG

"Big" is an activity that allows the children to act out this month's theme.

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Have the children stand in a circle.

During the Activity: Invite the children to squat down and make themselves small. Then tell them to stretch up and jump up to make themselves big. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Everyone come and stand in a circle!"

During the Activity: "Everyone squat down like this. (*Demonstrate.*) We are so small! Now stand up and jump and be BIG!" (*Demonstrate.*)

After the Activity: "Great job! You made yourselves VERY big! This month we are going to talk about someone who loves us SO BIG! I'm excited for you to hear our first story 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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STACK IT UP

"Stack It Up" is an activity that teaches sorting by size and color recognition.

WHAT YOU NEED: Several ring stackers

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Set the ring stackers in the activity area. Take off all of the rings.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to work together to put all of the rings onto the stacker.

After the Activity: Ask the children what color the biggest ring is.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Let's work together and stack these rings."

During the Activity: "Start with the biggest ring. Can you find the biggest ring and put it on the stacker? (Pause.) Great job! Now I want you to find the next biggest. (Pause.) Awesome! See if you can stack the rings all the way up." (Continue with activity.)

After the Activity: "Great job stacking all the rings! Can you tell me what color the BIGGEST ring is? (Pause.) Yes! It is blue. Today we are going to talk about a love so BIG! I can't wait to find out who loves us SO BIG!"



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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DOUGH FOOD

"Dough Food" is an activity that uses fine motor skills and creativity to introduce today's Bible story.

(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, and Play-Doh® in a variety of colors

(Option: You can make your own play-dough with flour, water, salt, oil, and food coloring. Visit First Look's February Pinterest Board to see a recipe: <https://www.pinterest.com/firstlookcurr/february-2017-so-big/>)

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on white cardstock and hang it on the door. Set out the Play-Doh in the activity area.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to use the Play-Doh to make food. Allow the children to be creative and make the food of their choice.

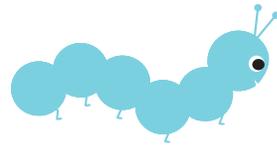
After the Activity: Introduce today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "I am hungry! Let's make some food!"

During the Activity: *(Point to the Play-Doh.)* "We can use the Play-Doh to make yummy pretend food! You can make whatever you would like. *(Do activity.)* Great job!"

After the Activity: "All of this food looks super yummy! Today our Bible story is about someone who makes food for a very special person. Let's get ready to hear our TRUE story from the Bible and find out who it was!"



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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MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

"Memory Verse with Motions" is an activity that uses repetition and movement to teach the memory verse.

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Say the memory verse with the kids several times.

During the Activity: Teach the following motions to the children while saying the verse. How wide (*hold your arms out wide*) and long (*hold your 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. (*Open your hands like a book.*) After the children have learned the motions, repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "We have a new memory verse this month. It is: How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, Ephesians 3:18. Now let's say it together! (*Repeat verse.*) Awesome! Again! (*Repeat again.*) Nice job!"

During the Activity: "Now I am going to teach you some motions that we can do while we say our verse. Watch me and do what I do! How wide (*hold your arms out wide*) and long (*hold your 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. (*Open your hands like a book.*) Awesome! Again! (*Repeat as desired.*)

After the Activity: "Our memory verse tells us that Jesus loves us so much that it cannot be measured. WOW! He loves us A LOT! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"



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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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COOK AND RETELL

"Cook and Retell" is an activity that allows the children to engage in an action that relates to today's Bible story while it is being retold.

WHAT YOU NEED: Play food, play cookware, and play utensils

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Lay all of the supplies in the activity area.

During the Activity: Retell the story while the children pretend to cook a meal.

After the Activity: Pretend to eat the meal that the children have made.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Look at all of this food. It reminds me of today's Bible story. Pretend to make a yummy meal while we talk about our story!"

During the Activity: "Mary and Martha were very excited that Jesus was coming to their house. Martha was very busy cleaning the house and making everything very nice for Jesus. When Jesus got their house, Martha kept busy cooking a BIG meal for Jesus, just like you are cooking now. Do you think Mary was helping her cook? (Pause.) No! Mary was sitting with Jesus talking to Him and spending time with Him. Martha was upset with Mary for not helping her. But Jesus told Martha that He did not care about a clean house or BIG meals. He wanted to spend time with them. He loves us and wants to spend time with all of us!"

After the Activity: "WOW! You have made a really yummy looking meal! Let's pretend to eat together. (Pretend to eat meal.) Jesus wanted to spend time with Mary AND Martha, because He loved them so much. He loves us too! He wants to spend time with us too! Tell me: **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"



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MY GOD IS SO BIG

"My God Is So Big" is an activity that reinforces this month's theme through song and movements.

WHAT YOU NEED: The song "My God Is So Big," the motions from the Music Tab, and a music player

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Have the children stand in front of you. Play the song.

During the Activity: Sing the song with the children and teach the motions. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Our God is so BIG! And I have the perfect song for us to sing!"

During the Activity: "Everyone watch me and do what I do. (*Teach motions.*) Great job! Let's do it again!"

After the Activity: "Nice job! Our God is SOO BIG! He loves us SOOO much that His love is bigger than this room, than this building, even bigger than the whole planet. WOW! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!** Great job!"



MAKE IT STICK

Activities designed to reinforce the Bible story and bottom line.



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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TISSUE HEART

"Tissue Heart" is an activity that creates a visual of the Bottom Line for the children to take home.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Heart Outline" Activity Page, white cardstock, different colors of tissue squares, and glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Heart Outline" Activity Page onto the cardstock. Provide one per child.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to crumple the tissue squares in their hands and then glue them onto the heart.

After the Activity: Challenge the children to cover their entire heart with tissue paper.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "When I think of love, I think of hearts. Today we are going to make a heart to remind us that Jesus loves us!"

During the Activity: "Glue the tissue paper inside your heart. (*Hold up.*) Crumple it up inside your hand (*demonstrate*) and then glue it on. Use all different colors to make your heart BEAUTIFUL!"

After the Activity: "I love your hearts! You can take your hearts home and tell your family that Jesus loves you and He loves them too! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"