



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

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. ©2016 Orange. All rights reserved. First Look® and the First Look® logo are trademarks of Orange.

“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.



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 loves me.
Jesus and the Children
• Luke 18:15-16**

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.

- Hopping Hearts
- On the Heart
- Mirror, Mirror

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.

- Tunnel of Love
- Jesus Loves Me
- Cheer
- Jesus Loves the Children



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.

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 loves me.
Jesus and the Children
• Luke 18:15-16**

HOPPING HEARTS

"Hopping Hearts" is an activity that uses large motor and listening skills to introduce today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: 10-15 pieces of red construction paper, scissors, and floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Cut full-size hearts out of the construction paper. Tape the hearts on the floor in a path, with each heart about two feet apart. Make sure the hearts are taped securely so the children will not slip.

During the Activity: Challenge the children to hop from heart to heart. Say "STOP" while the children are hopping and have them "freeze." After a few seconds, have the children continue hopping. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Let's get hopping!"

During the Activity: "Stand on a heart and then try to hop to the next one until I say 'STOP,' and then I want you to freeze. Let's see how far we can go! (*Do activity.*) STOP! Everyone freeze! Great job! Now let's get hopping again!" (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "Nice job! You did a great job freezing when I said to STOP! Someone says 'stop' in our story today. I wonder what it was about. We'll find out soon!"



MAKE IT FUN

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



GAME

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

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 loves me.
Jesus and the Children
• Luke 18:15-16**

ON THE HEART

"On the Heart" is an activity that teaches critical thinking skills and teamwork to introduce today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: A piece of red construction paper, scissors, tape, and 10 Little People® figures

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Cut a large heart out of the red construction paper. Tape it to a table or the floor in the activity area. Place the Little People figures all around the activity area in plain sight.

During the Activity: Challenge the children to find the Little People around the room. Ask the children to place all of the Little People they have found on the heart.

WHAT YOU SAY:

During the Activity: "I have placed 'little people' all over the room. Can you help me find them?" (*Help the children find all 10 figures.*) Great job! Can you place all of the people that you found onto this heart? (*Point.*) Perfect!"

After the Activity: "Hearts remind me of LOVE! There is someone in our story today that loves everyone—even the little people! Let's get ready to hear our true story from the Bible and find out who it is."



MAKE IT FUN

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



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.

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 loves me.
Jesus and the Children
• Luke 18:15-16**

MIRROR, MIRROR

"Mirror, Mirror" is an activity that allows the children to place themselves into the leading role of the upcoming Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: Medium-sized shatterproof mirror and a red dry-erase marker

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Place the mirror on a table or floor in the activity area. Use the marker to draw a large heart on the mirror.

During the Activity: Say, "Look who Jesus loves!" as the children look into the mirror.

After the Activity: Repeat the activity until every child has had a turn.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Let's see who Jesus loves!"

During the Activity: (*Point to the mirror.*) "Look who Jesus loves! (*Encourage the child to look into the mirror.*) YES! He loves YOU! His love for you is so big!" (*Continue until every child has had a turn.*)

After the Activity: "Jesus loves you—each of you! Our Bible story today is about how Jesus loves everyone! Let's get ready to hear it!"



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.

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 loves me.
Jesus and the Children
• Luke 18:15-16

TUNNEL OF LOVE

"Tunnel of Love" is an activity that incorporates fun and repetition to teach this month's memory verse.

WHAT YOU NEED: Play tunnel

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Place the tunnel in the center of the play area.

During the Activity: Encourage each child to crawl through the tunnel and come out the other side. As they come out, say the memory verse together as a group.

After the Activity: Repeat the activity until each child has had a turn.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Let's play with the tunnel!"

During the Activity: "After you crawl through the tunnel we can say our verse together. Are you ready?" (*Pause and do activity.*)

After the Activity: "Great job climbing through the tunnel and saying our verse! Our memory verse tells us that Jesus loves us SO much that His love is wider than the widest thing, longer than the longest thing, higher than the highest thing, and deeper than the deepest thing! He loves us THAT MUCH! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!"**



MAKE IT STICK

Activities designed to reinforce the Bible story and bottom line.



BIBLE STORY REVIEW

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

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 loves me.
Jesus and the Children
• Luke 18:15-16

JESUS LOVES ME

"Jesus Loves Me" is an activity that creates a visual of the Bottom Line and the Bible story for the children to take home.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Hands" Activity Page, white cardstock, pink paint, marker, paintbrush, and wet wipes

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Hands" Activity Page onto the cardstock. Provide one page per child.

During the Activity: Paint each child's hand with the paint using the paintbrush. Place the painted hand onto the paper to make a handprint. Write the child's name in the blank at the top of the paper.

After the Activity: Wipe messy fingers with the wet wipes.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "In our story today, Jesus told the children to come to Him. His friends told them to stop, but Jesus loves everyone and wants to spend time with everyone—even the smallest of children."

During the Activity: "We are going to place your handprint here (*hold up page*) to show that Jesus loves ALL children! That means you!" (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: "I love your little handprints! You can take this home as a reminder that Jesus loves ALL of you. He loves everyone! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"



MAKE IT STICK

Activities designed to reinforce the Bible story and bottom line.



MOVEMENT

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

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 loves me.
Jesus and the Children
• Luke 18:15-16

CHEER

"Cheer" is an activity that calls each child by name while reinforcing the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

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

During the Activity: Say, "Jesus loves [child's name]." After each child is named, encourage the children to all jump and cheer. Repeat until every child has been named.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Jesus loves EVERYONE!"

During the Activity: "Jesus loves [child's name]. YAY! Everyone jump and cheer! (*Demonstrate.*) Jesus loves [different child's name]. YAY! Let's jump and cheer!"

After the Activity: "Great job jumping and cheering for your friends! Jesus loves everyone. He loves mommies, daddies, grandparents, children, and little babies! He loves EVERYONE! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"



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.

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 loves me.
Jesus and the Children
• Luke 18:15-16

JESUS LOVES THE CHILDREN

"Jesus Loves the Children" is an activity that allows the children to create the concept of today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Jesus" Activity Page, white cardstock, and assorted colors of smiley face stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Jesus" Activity Page onto the cardstock. Provide one page per child.

During the Activity: Give each child an Activity Page and 5-10 smiley face stickers. Help the children place the stickers all around the picture of Jesus.

After the Activity: Reinforce the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "We are going to make a picture to remind us of our Bible story today."

During the Activity: (Give each child an Activity Page and stickers.) "Jesus told His friends to let the children come to Him. Place the stickers all around Jesus to show the children spending time with Jesus." (Finish activity.)

After the Activity: "Great job! I love your pictures of Jesus with the children. Jesus loves everyone! He loves all of the children too! He loves you! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!"**