



# JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.



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### BASIC TRUTH

**JESUS WANTS TO BE  
MY FRIEND FOREVER.**

### KEY QUESTION

HOW CAN YOU LOVE LIKE JESUS?

### BOTTOM LINE

I CAN LOVE EVERYONE.

### MEMORY VERSE

*"Love one another."*  
John 13:34, NIV

### BIBLE STORY FOCUS

I can love by helping.  
Good Samaritan  
• Luke 10:25-37

## 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.

- Helping Out
- Walk the Path
- Sensory Tools

## 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
- Act and Retell
- Move the Chute
- Helping Heart



## 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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## HELPING OUT

"Helping Out" is an activity that teaches large motor skills while focusing on basic morals.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** 5-10 plush animals

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Place the plush animal friends on the floor next to a table. Arrange them as if they have fallen off the table.

**During the Activity:** Explain to the children that the toys have fallen off of the table and need help.

**After the Activity:** Ask the children to help the plush friends by picking them up and placing them back on the table.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "Today we are going to talk about how Jesus wants us to help each other!"

**During the Activity:** (Point to plush friends on the floor.) "OH NO! I see some friends that have fallen! Can you be a good friend and help them by picking them up and putting them back on the table? (Pause.) Let's all help our friends!" (Do activity.)

**After the Activity:** "Thank you so much for helping! You are such awesome helpers. Today in our Bible story we are going to hear about someone else who needed help. I wonder if someone ended up helping him. Let's find out!"



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## GAME

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

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## WALK THE PATH

"Walk the Path" is an activity that teaches teamwork and critical thinking skills while introducing today's Bible story.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** 5-10 pool noodles OR a set of cardboard blocks

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Lay the noodles or blocks out in the activity area.

**During the Activity:** Encourage the children to help you put the blocks or noodles end to end vertically to make a path. You will have blocks or noodles on either side of where you want the children to walk.

**After the Activity:** After the path is built, encourage the children to walk single file down the path.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "We are going to be builders today!"

**During the Activity:** "We are going to use these (*hold up noodles or blocks*) to make a path for us to walk on. Let's help each other make the path! (*Demonstrate.*) Great job!" (*Do activity.*)

**After the Activity:** "Our pathway looks AWESOME! Great job helping each other. Now let's walk on our new path that we all helped build before we hear our TRUE story from the Bible!"



### 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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## SENSORY TOOLS

"Sensory Tools" is an activity that uses the sense of touch and problem solving to introduce this month's theme.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Large tub, shredded paper, and several plastic tools

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Place the tools inside the tub. Put the shredded paper on top of the tools and mix the tools and paper together.

**During the Activity:** Ask the children to place their hands inside the tub and try to find the tools inside.

**After the Activity:** Be sure every child has a turn trying to find the tools.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "We are talking about building things this month. We use tools to build."

**During the Activity:** (Point to the tub.) "There are tools inside the tub. Can you use your hands to see if you can find the tools?" (Do activity.)

**After the Activity:** "Fantastic job! You found all of the tools! Now we are ready to build! But first we are going to hear a TRUE story from the Bible. A man in our Bible story needs help. 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.

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## MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

"Memory Verse with Motions" is an activity that uses repetition and movement to teach this month's memory verse.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Say the memory verse with the class several times.

**During the Activity:** Teach the following motions to the children while saying the verse. Love (*hug yourself and twist*) one another (*point to all your friends*), John 13:34. (*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: Love one another, John 13:34. Now let's say it together: Love one another, John 13:34. Awesome! Again! (*Repeat.*) 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. Love (*hug yourself and twist*) one another (*point to all your friends*), John 13:34. (*Open your hands like a book.*) Awesome! Again!" (*Repeat several times.*)

**After the Activity:** "Our memory verse tells us that Jesus wants us to love and help each other. We should always be kind to each other. Jesus wants us to love EVERYONE! **How can you love like Jesus? I can love 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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## ACT AND RETELL

"Act and Retell" is an activity that gives the children a key part in retelling the Bible story.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Retell the Bible story. Divide the children into groups of four.

**During the Activity:** Have the children act out the story by having one child play the injured man, one child play the Good Samaritan, and the other two children play the men who walked by.

**After the Activity:** Allow the children to switch roles so that each child can play all of the characters in the story.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "We heard a wonderful Bible story today. I think I should retell it, and then we can take turns acting out the characters from the story!"

**During the Activity:** "A man fell down and hurt himself. He could not get up. He was lying on the street with no one to help him. And then a man walked by, but he did not help the hurt man. Then a second man walked by and he didn't help the injured man either! Poor man! Then a third man walked by. Do you remember what happened next? (Pause.)

YES! The third man helped the hurt man. Let's pretend to act out our story today. (Divide children.) One of you can be the injured man. (Choose child.) You can lie down and pretend you are hurt. Now you two (choose children) walk by the hurt man, but do not help him. Now it is time for the Good Samaritan to walk by. (Have child playing Good Samaritan help the child on the floor.) Perfect! Let's do it again!" (Repeat using different children for each role.)

**After the Activity:** "You did a great job acting out the story! Our story tells us that Jesus wants us to help each other, just like the Good Samaritan helped the man in our story. We can show love by helping! **How can you love like Jesus? I can love everyone!**"



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## MOVE THE CHUTE

"Move the Chute" is an activity that teaches following directions and listening skills while focusing on the word "help."

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Parachute or a large sheet

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Have the children stand around the parachute. Ask each child to help you by picking up the parachute.

**During the Activity:** Ask the children to help you move the parachute up and down by moving their arms up and down.

**After the Activity:** Repeat several times.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "I need help!"

**During the Activity:** (*Point to parachute.*) "I need your help picking up the parachute. It is too big for me to pick it up by myself. (*Pick up parachute with help of children.*) Thank you so much! Now can you help me move it up? (*Raise arms.*) Awesome! Now can you help me bring it down? (*Bring arms down.*) Nice job! Let's do it again!" (*Repeat several times.*)

**After the Activity:** "Thank you so much for your help! You helped me just like the Good Samaritan helped the hurt man in our story today. Jesus wants us to help each other. Helping shows that we love each other. **How can you love like Jesus? I can love everyone!**"



## 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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## HELPING HEART

"Helping Heart" is an activity that creates a visual of today's story and this month's Bottom Line for the child to take home.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Helping Heart" Activity Page, red cardstock, scissors, and BAND-AIDS®

### WHAT YOU DO:

**Before the Activity:** Copy the Activity Page onto the red cardstock. Cut each page in half along the dotted lines. Each child will need one half page. Remove the BAND-AIDS from the wrappers. Keep the tabs on the BAND-AIDS until you've distributed them.

**During the Activity:** Give each child a half page and a BAND-AID. Help the child place the BAND-AID onto the heart on the page.

**After the Activity:** Explain to the children that they can take the heart home and use it to tell their families about today's story.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**Before the Activity:** "Our story today was about a man who had a helping heart. Let's make a helping heart so that you can take it home and tell your family all about the story!"

**During the Activity:** (Give each child an Activity Page and a BAND-AID.) "Place the BAND-AID on the heart. (Help kids as needed.) Nice job!"

**After the Activity:** "We put the BAND-AID on the heart to show that the Good Samaritan had a helping heart when he helped the hurt man in our story today. Jesus wants us to be helpers too and to love EVERYBODY! **How can you love like Jesus? I can love everyone!** Great job, everyone!"