



# MAKE IT TRUE

After children have participated in Make It Fun, gather them on a rug or in the corner of the room.

Encourage the kids to have fun singing with you and then share the Bible Story.

Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's OK. They're still listening and learning!

FIRST LOOK OFFERS A WEEKLY BIBLE STORY ON OUR DVD TITLED "WONDER, LOOK AT GOD'S STORY," WHICH YOU MAY CHOOSE TO USE RATHER THAN A LIVE STORYTELLER THIS WEEK. THIS DVD IS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT [WWW.ORANGESTORE.ORG](http://WWW.ORANGESTORE.ORG)



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# MAKE IT TRUE

## 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 no matter what.  
Prodigal Son  
• Luke 15:11-24**

## WORSHIP

**WHAT YOU NEED:** CD player, this month's worship song, "His Love Never Ends," downloaded from the Website, and the motions for the song

**LEADER:** "Hi, everyone! Look at all your smiling faces. Do you smile like that all the time or just when you're getting ready to sing? (Pause.) I smile when I'm getting ready to sing too—especially when I'm getting ready to sing about how I can love like Jesus. Jesus loves everyone, and I can too! **How can you love like Jesus? I can love everyone.** Let's sing!"

*Lead children in singing "His Love Never Ends."*

"Way to go! You are all such amazing singers. Now remind me: **How can you love like Jesus? I can love everyone.** That's right, friends. You better believe it!"

## BIBLE STORY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** A Bible, a backpack, a wallet, a stack of paper money, a party hat, gold beaded necklaces, and a box to put all the props in

**STORYTELLER:** (Place the box of props next to you on the floor.) "Hey, friends! Today I want to share one of my very favorite stories from the Bible! (Hold up Bible.) It's a story Jesus told about a father and a son. One day the son asked the dad if he could have the money he was supposed to get when he was older. The son wanted it now and he didn't want to wait.

"The dad didn't have to give him the money, but he loved his son, so he did. (Take out the wad of money, place it in the wallet, and put the wallet in your back pocket.) Then the son took the money and went far, far away. (Put on the backpack.) He had parties (put the party hat on) and he bought lots of clothes and toys and stuff he wanted.

(Pull out money one bill at a time and throw it behind you. Put the gold necklaces around your neck.)

"He had a lot of fun spending all of his money until one day the money ran out. (Open up the wallet and show the children that it's empty.) He was out of money and all his party friends went away. No more parties. No more money.

(Take off the party hat and gold necklaces and backpack.)



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"The son was alone. He didn't have a house, or money, or food. He got so hungry he tried to eat out of a pig trough with the pigs! It was then that he remembered his family back home. He had done so many wrong things. He ran away, took his dad's money, and spent it all on things he didn't even need. If he went back home, would his dad still love him? What do you guys think? *(Pause.)* If he goes back, will his dad still love him and welcome him home? *(Pause.)* Well, let's find out.

"The son went home. *(Put the backpack back on.)* When his dad saw him coming, he raced outside to HUG his son! Quick, give yourselves a big hug! *(Pause.)* Hugs are awesome, aren't they? Of course his dad still loved him! There was nothing his son could do that would change that.

"Do you know why Jesus told that story? Because that's how much HE loves US. Jesus loves us no matter what! Even if someday you disobey your mom, or break something, or say mean words, Jesus will still love you. And one of the best things we can do for someone else is to love them like Jesus loves us. Tell me: **How can you love like Jesus?**"

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "I can love everyone."**

**STORYTELLER:** "The son messed up, but his dad still loved him no matter what. And Jesus loves you even more. Isn't that awesome? Let's pray.

"Dear God, thank You for the story of this son and his forgiving father. Help us to forgive and love others too because You love us! We can love like Jesus by loving everyone! Help us to do that this week. In Jesus' name, amen."