



JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.



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BASIC TRUTH

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

KEY QUESTION

WHO IS THE BEST?

BOTTOM LINE

JESUS IS THE BEST!

MEMORY VERSE

**"God loved the world so much that
He gave His only Son."
John 3:16, GNT**

BIBLE STORY FOCUS

**Jesus shows me I can serve others.
Washing Feet • John 13:3-17**

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.

- Shoe Sort
- Sock Match
- Clean Feet

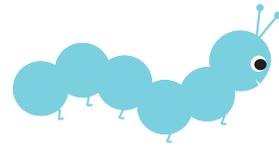
MAKE IT TRUE (LARGE GROUP)

- 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
- Washing Feet
- Clean Freeze
- Plate Craft



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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SHOE SORT

"Shoe Sort" is an activity that teaches sorting, as well as likes and differences, while introducing today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Guide the children to stand in front of you.

During the Activity: Call out the children in categories according to the shoes that they are wearing and have that group do a movement. For example: everyone in tennis shoes jump two times, everyone in sandals walk and touch the back wall, etc.

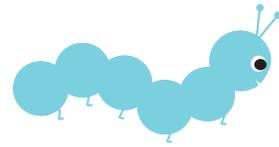
After the Activity: Make sure you call out a category that each child fits into.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Everyone is wearing such nice shoes today!"

During the Activity: "I see so many different kinds of shoes. If you have on tennis shoes, jump up high TWO times! *(Pause.)* Great job! Now if you have on sandals, walk fast and touch that wall. *(Pause.)* Awesome! If you have shoes on that do not tie, then touch your toes. *(Pause.)* Nice job!"

After the Activity: "Great job, friends! We wear shoes on our feet and today we are going to talk about feet in our Bible story! I can't wait for you to hear it!"



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GAME

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

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SOCK MATCH

"Sock Match" is an activity that teaches matching and color recognition while introducing today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: 6 pairs of socks (each pair should be a different color)

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Place one of each pair of sock around the room or activity area. Place the other socks in a pile in the middle of the activity area.

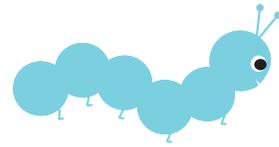
During the Activity: Pick up one sock out of the pile and ask the children to go and find the match and bring it to you. Then put the pair together. Pick up a second sock and repeat. Repeat until all of the socks are matched.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: (Point to pile of socks.) "Uh-oh. All of these socks have lost their match!"

During the Activity: "Can you help me find the matches? (Hold up one sock.) See this sock? Look around the room and see if you can find the match." (Do activity.)

After the Activity: "You are all so good at matching! Socks go on our feet to help keep them warm and clean. Today we are going to hear a story about how Jesus' friends' feet were cleaned. I can't wait!"



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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CLEAN FEET

"Clean Feet" is an activity that allows the children to role-play while introducing today's Bible story.

WHAT YOU NEED: Several dolls with plastic feet and wet wipes

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Lay the dolls and wet wipes in the activity area.

During the Activity: Help the children clean the dolls' feet with the wipes.

After the Activity: Be sure to throw all of the used wipes away.

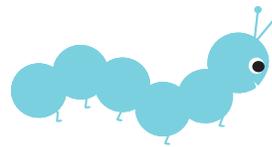
(Note: Be sure to only use the wet wipes under adult supervision. Little ones might put them in their mouths and should not have them unsupervised.)

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Uh-oh! These babies have dirty feet. We need to clean them up!"

During the Activity: "Can you help me wash their feet?" *(Do activity.)*

After the Activity: "Thank you so much for your help! The babies really needed their feet washed. In our Bible story today, someone will have his feet washed too! Let's get ready to find out who it is!"



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.

This month, challenge your children to practice the memory verse at home with their families. Send home the memory chart to help them keep track of their progress. There are two notes to choose from. You can send home a chart for the children to keep at home or you can ask that they bring the chart back to you on Week 5 for a prize. Prizes can be stickers, small token toys, or sweet treats. Choose the appropriate note for your class to send home with the chart and stickers.

WHAT YOU NEED: "April Parent Note Option #1" OR "April Parent Note Option #2" Activity Page, "Memory Chart" Activity Page, white paper, and stickers (Note: There are brand new Ollie stickers available at orangestore.org.)

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Memory Chart" and the "Parent Note" of your choosing onto the white paper. You will only need one parent note to send home. Choose which parent note best suits the needs of your class.

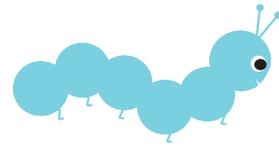
During the Activity: Teach the memory verse and motions: God (*point up*) loved (*hug yourself*) the world (*raise your arms overhead to form a circle*) so much (*stretch your arms out as far as possible*) that He gave (*place your hands together with palms up in front of you as if you're offering something*) His only (*point up*) Son (*hold your arms as if you're cradling and rocking a baby*), John 3:16. (*Open your hands like a book.*) Repeat several times.

After the Activity: Send home the memory chart, parent note, and stickers with each child.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "We have a new memory verse this month! It is: God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son, John 3:16. Now let's say it together." (Repeat several times.)

During the Activity: "Now I am going to teach you some motions that we can



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do while we say our verse. Watch me and do what I do. God (*point up*) loved (*hug yourself*) the world (*raise your arms overhead to form a circle*) so much (*stretch your arms out as far as possible*) that He gave (*place your hands together with palms up in front of you as if you're offering something*) His only (*point up*) Son (*hold your arms as if you're cradling and rocking a baby*), John 3:16. (*Open your hands like a book.*) Great job!" (*Repeat as time and interest allow.*)

After the Activity: "Our memory verse tells us that God loves us SO much that He sent us Jesus. He gave us His only Son! **Who is the best? Jesus is the best!**"



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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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WASHING FEET

"Washing Feet" is an activity that gives the children a visual while the Bible story is being retold.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Feet" Activity Page, white paper, wall tape, laminator, brown dry-erase marker, and wet wipes

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Feet" Activity Page onto the paper. Laminate it and hang it on a wall in the activity area.

During the Activity: Color the feet with the brown marker. Retell the Bible story. When you get to the part about washing feet, ask the children to come up a few at a time and use a wipe to wash the dirt off of the feet on the Activity Page. Finish retelling the story and redraw the dirt on the feet, so that every child can have a turn.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "We heard a wonderful story today!"

During the Activity: "Jesus went to have dinner with His friends. He noticed something about their feet. They were stinky and dirty! Do you remember what Jesus did? (Pause.) Yes! He washed His friends' feet! (Give several children a wipe.) Can you wash the feet in the picture just like Jesus did? (Pause.) Great job! Now let's let some of our other friends have a turn. (Continue the activity until all of the children have had a turn.) Nice work!"

After the Activity: "Jesus loves us so much! He loves us so much that He even washed His friends' stinky feet! He always takes care of us! Jesus is the best. **Who is the best? Jesus is the best!**"



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CLEAN FREEZE

"Clean Freeze" is an activity that teaches the children to serve in a fun way.

WHAT YOU NEED: Toys and other toddler safe items from around the room, and a large basket

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Spread the toys and other items around the floor in the activity area. Place the basket in the middle.

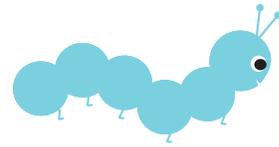
During the Activity: Ask the children to help you clean up the items on the floor and place them in the basket. As the children are cleaning, shout, "FREEZE," and encourage the children to stop cleaning and freeze. Wait a few seconds and then shout, "CLEAN," and have the children start cleaning again. Repeat several times until the floor is completely cleaned.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "Uh-oh! Our room is super messy! I know a fun way that we can clean up."

During the Activity: "Everyone start cleaning and placing the toys in the basket. (*Point to basket.*) When I say, 'FREEZE,' then everyone stop and freeze. When I say, 'CLEAN,' then start cleaning again. Are you ready?" (*Pause. Do activity.*)

After the Activity: "Great job! That was so much fun. When we help others, it can be lots of FUN! Jesus served others today in our Bible story today and we can serve others too. Jesus is the BEST! **Who is the best? Jesus is the best!**"



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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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PLATE CRAFT

"Plate Craft" is an activity that creates a visual of the Bible story for the children to take home.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Feet Craft" Activity Page, tan cardstock, blue plates, dry sponges, scissors, glue sticks, and liquid glue

WHAT YOU DO:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Feet Craft" Activity Page onto the cardstock. Cut along the dotted lines. Cut the sponges into one-inch squares. Each child will need one square.

During the Activity: Give each child a plate and the feet from the Activity Page. Help the child use the glue stick to glue the feet onto the plate. Use the liquid glue to glue the square piece of sponge next to the feet.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Before the Activity: "We are going to make a craft to remind us of our Bible story!"

During the Activity: "Jesus washed His friends' feet. (Give each child a plate and feet.) Glue the feet onto the blue plate. We can pretend that the plate is water. (Pause.) Perfect! Now I will help you glue on a sponge to wash the feet." (Finish activity.)

After the Activity: "You can take home your craft and tell your family about our Bible story today. Jesus did a very nice thing for His friends by washing their feet! Jesus is the BEST! **Who is the best? Jesus is the best!**"