

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

ONE

FEBRUARY 2018

SMALL GROUP

3-5

YEAR-OLDS



first look™

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME



BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30

MEMORY VERSE

“Love each other as I have loved you.”

JOHN 15:12, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

For Leaders Only
Monthly Overview
Create the Environment

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.
Well Toss
A Different Memory
Drawing Water

10
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Always
Amazing Things

10
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Introductory Sketch
Bible Story
Prayer

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.
Memory Verse with Motions
A Well of My Own
Candyland
House Hunting
Candy Craft
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30



MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other as I have loved you."

JOHN 15:12, NIV

KEY QUESTION

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1. WELL TOSS

WHAT YOU NEED: An inflatable water ring; a laundry basket; and 3 blue ball pit balls, balled up socks, or colored balled up paper

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Inflate the water ring and set it over the top of the laundry basket in an open area of the room. This will serve as your well.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Line up the children about three feet away from the "well" with the balls (*or socks or paper wads*). Let each child take a turn to try to throw the three balls into the center of the ring so that they land in the laundry basket. Once each child has thrown all three balls, let them reach in and pull the balls back out, like they are drawing water from the well, and then hand them to the next friend in line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "I want us to see if we can throw this water (*hold up a ball*) into my well here (*point to the laundry basket*) and then reach in and draw the water back out, so we can hand it to the next friend in line. Are you ready? (Pause.) Let's line up right here, friends!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job, everyone! You were able to get the water out of the well! Today in our Bible story, we'll hear about a woman who went to draw water from a well. When she went there, she met someone very special! I can't wait for you to find out who it was."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to draw water from the well into a big jar. Then encourage the children to carry that "jar" all the way to Large Group. Say, "Let's all pretend to dip a bucket into a well, pull the bucket up, and pour it into a big jar. Whew! Now let's carry our heavy jars all the way to Large Group. Be careful not to spill any water!"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30



PLAY

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

MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other as I have loved you."

JOHN 15:12, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

2. A DIFFERENT MEMORY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory" Activity Page, white cardstock, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory" onto the cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. You will have six separate cards.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lay the cards face down onto the floor or table. Have one child go first. Encourage the child to turn over two cards to see if they match. If the child chooses a match, collect the two cards and set them aside. If the cards do not match, turn them back over. Choose another child to have a turn and continue the activity. If you still have children who have not had a turn and all of the matches are gone, simply shuffle the cards, replace the cards face down, and begin again.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to play a game!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "There are cards on the table. (*Point.*) Each card has a match on it. Let's see if we can find all of the matches!" (*Play game.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job! Each match had someone who is different on it. This girl has purple hair (*hold up card*), this child likes to play in the rain (*hold up card*), and this child likes playing with animals (*hold up card*). We are all different! Today we are going to learn about someone who loves EVERYONE!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by chanting this month's Bottom Line, "Jesus loves everyone!" as you walk with the children to the story area.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30



IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine,
and role play to enhance their learning

MEMORY VERSE

“Love each other as I have
loved you.”

JOHN 15:12, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.

3. DRAWING WATER

WHAT YOU NEED: A large, tall plastic container or jar; a plastic pitcher; several plastic cups; and a tablecloth

(NOTE: Never leave children unattended around water.)

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Cover the tables with a plastic tablecloth. Fill the tall container about halfway full of water. Place the container of water, the pitcher, and plastic cups on the covered table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children around the table. Show them how to use the cups to scoop out water from the large container and then pour it into the pitcher. Once the pitcher is full, dump the water back into the large container, so that every child has a turn. Repeat as time and interest allow.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: When finished, dump out all the water into the sink if available, or set the water aside beyond the children’s reach.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: “Today I want us to pretend to scoop water from a well. When Jesus was alive, when people wanted water they had to walk all the way to a well, which was like a deep hole dug down into the ground. They would scoop up the water and pour it into a jar to take it home. Let’s practice scooping water together!”

DURING THE ACTIVITY: “Use your cup to reach in and scoop out some water, and then carefully pour it into the pitcher. Everyone will have a turn.”

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: “That was SO fun. Can you imagine if you had to walk to a well, scoop water, pour it into another container, and then walk with it all the way home? Today we’ll hear about a woman who went to the well to draw water when something amazing happened! Let’s go hear this TRUE story from the Bible!”

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to scoop, pour, and carry water.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**HEAR
FROM GOD**
MEMORY VERSE
REVIEW



MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30

MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other as I have loved you."

JOHN 15:12, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

1. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Say the memory verse and do the following motions in front of the **CHILDREN:**

Love each other (*give yourself a big hug*)
as I (*point up with both fingers*)
have loved you (*bring fingers down and point all over the room at all the kids*),
John 15:12. (*Open your hands like a book.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Say the verse again with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "I am going to say our new memory verse today. Everyone watch me! Love each other (*give yourself a big hug*) as I (*point up with both fingers*) have loved you (*bring fingers down and point all over the room at all the kids*), John 15:12." (*Open your hands like a book.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now let's do it all together! Are you ready? Love each other (*give yourself a big hug*) as I (*point up with both fingers*) have loved you (*bring fingers down and point all over the room at all the kids*), John 15:12." (*Open your hands like a book.*) (*Repeat several times.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Good job! Our memory verse tells us that Jesus wants us to love each other just like He loves us. **Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

TALK
ABOUT GOD
BIBLE STORY
REVIEW



CREATE

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30

2. A WELL OF MY OWN

Visit First Look's February 2018 Pinterest Board to see the inspiration for this activity: <https://www.pinterest.com/firstlookcurr/february-2018-sweet-shop/>

WHAT YOU NEED: 12-oz. clear plastic cups (1 per child), 3-oz. paper cups (1 per child), string, masking tape, blue tissue paper, scissors, cotton swabs (1 per child), liquid glue, 3-4 small paper plates, "Bible Story Labels" Activity Page, and Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent

MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other as I have loved you."

JOHN 15:12, NIV

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Bible Story Labels" onto the label paper. You'll need one label per child. Use the scissors to cut the blue tissue paper into squares. Place some glue on the center of each paper plate and set them in the center of the tables. Place a few cotton swabs next to each plate. Cut the string into 12-inch pieces. You'll need one length of string for each child.

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Pass out a 12-oz. plastic cup and several tissue paper squares to each child. Demonstrate how to dip their cotton swab into the glue, then dab some onto one of the tissue paper squares, and then glue it to the inside of the cup. You will need to be ready to help little hands with this process. Give each child a "Bible Story Label" to place on the outside of their cup.

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

Give each child a 3-ounce cup and a piece of string. Have them secure the string to the side of the cup with the tape. When finished, place one of the 12-ounce cups with tissue paper on the table. This is your well. Then show the children how to lower their smaller cup with the string into and out of their "wells" to draw water.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we learned about a woman who went to the well to draw water. I thought it would be fun to make our own wells to take home!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Do you see this larger cup? (Hold up a 12-ounce cup.) I want you to take a cotton swab, dip it into the glue, dab some glue

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

TALK
ABOUT GOD
BIBLE STORY
REVIEW



CREATE

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home

onto the tissue paper, and then carefully press it inside the cup. Remember, just like water goes **INSIDE** the cup, the tissue paper goes **INSIDE** the cup. You'll also need to put one of these labels on the **OUTSIDE** of your cup. (*Do activity.*)

"Great job gluing your tissue paper inside your wells! Now, let's tape a piece of string to the side of this smaller cup. (*Hold up.*) This is what we will use to dip into our well like this. (*Demonstrate dipping your smaller cup into the larger one.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job, everyone! Your wells look awesome. Tell me, when Jesus asked the woman for a drink at the well that day, what did she do? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes! She gave Jesus a drink. Jesus took the time to speak to her and show her that He loved her and she gave him a drink. Tell me: **Who does Jesus love?** **Jesus loves everyone.** He sure does! You can take your well home to remind you that **Jesus loves everyone.**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**LIVE
FOR GOD
APPLICATION
ACTIVITY**



THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30

MEMORY VERSE

“Love each other as I have
loved you.”

JOHN 15:12, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.

3. CANDYLAND

WHAT YOU NEED: Candy Land® game

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Set up the game on a table or the floor.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Play the game according to the directions inside the game. Be sure each child has a chance to play the game.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: “Candy Land is one of my favorite games to play! (Point.) I love all of the different colors and characters!”

DURING THE ACTIVITY: “Let’s play Candy Land together! We can all choose a different color gingerbread man to be!” (Play game.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: “Nice job! That was so much fun. It is fun to play with all of the different colors and characters. We are all different too! **Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**”

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**LIVE
FOR GOD
APPLICATION
ACTIVITY**



MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30

MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other as I have loved you."

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KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

4. HOUSE HUNTING

WHAT YOU NEED: "Home Images" Activity Pages, white cardstock, and wall tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Home Images" onto cardstock. Use the wall tape to secure these images to the wall in different areas of the room at a preschooler's eye level.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children in your open space and point out and name the different "home" images they see. Explain that you will call out a type of home, the children will run to it, and then you will give them an action to perform once they arrive.

Actions:

Jump up and down

Clap your hands quickly

Swim in place

March in place

Give a high five

Hug a friend

Hop on one foot

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Do you see all the pictures of homes I've placed around the room? (*Point.*) I will call out one of them along with an action and I want you to run to find that picture and then perform the action once you get there. For example, let's all swim at the houseboat. Ready, go find it!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job, friends! Come back and gather here with me where we started. (*Pause.*) Everybody take a deep breath. Whew, that was fun and tiring! You probably noticed that all of these houses are very different. I'm sure that the woman who met Jesus that day lived in a very different house than the houses in these pictures. But the differences don't really matter, because **Jesus loves everyone!** He loved the woman He met at the well that day and He loves each one of you and me too! **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**LIVE
FOR GOD
APPLICATION
ACTIVITY**



CREATE

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30

5. CANDY CRAFT

Visit First Look's February 2018 Pinterest Board to see the inspiration for this activity: <https://www.pinterest.com/firstlookcurr/february-2018-sweet-shop/>

WHAT YOU NEED: "Candy" Activity Page, white paper, red dessert-sized paper plates, white large paper plates, yellow and pink construction paper, clear tape, scissors, pencil, and glue sticks

MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other as I have loved you."

JOHN 15:12, NIV

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the Activity Page onto the white paper and cut on the dotted lines. Set aside. Cut the large white plates into quarters. You will need two quarters per child. Tape one quarter to each side of the dessert plate at the point of the quarter.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Trace the children's hands on the yellow and pink paper with the pencil. Cut out each hand. Help the children glue one handprint to each quarter. Encourage the children to glue the cutout from the Activity Page in the middle of the dessert plate.

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to make a pretend candy, just like they would have at a sweet shop!"

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (Give each child the assembled plate.) "We are going to put your handprints on your piece of candy. That will make the candy different, because everyone has different handprints. Everyone is different!" (Do activity.)

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "WOW! I love all of the different candies! We are all different and [Bottom Line] Jesus loves EVERYONE, even the woman at the well! **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**PRAY
TO GOD
PRAYER
ACTIVITY**



REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves everyone.

Woman at the Well
JOHN 4:1-30

MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other as I have
loved you."

JOHN 15:12, NIV

KEY QUESTION

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BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

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friend forever.

6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" paper clipped in your Bible at John 15:12, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen for each small group

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time—my favorite time! I think we should pretend to carry buckets of water while we walk to our spot since the woman in our story went to a well to get a bucket of water. Everyone pick up your pretend bucket of water. Try not to spill any water while we walk. Here we go!"

(Pretend to carry heavy buckets of water as you lead the children to your Small Group spot. Pretend to get splashed by a few drops of water as you walk. Make it fun.)

"You did a great job! Now let's sit down so we can talk about our story today. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

"We learned in our Bible story today that **Jesus loves everyone**, even the woman at the well who was different. Remember how they were from different towns and her people didn't want to be friends with Jesus' people and His people didn't want to be friends with her people? It was not good. But because **Jesus loves everyone**, He wanted to be her friend anyway, even if she was different! This story teaches us that we should love everyone, even if they're different, just like **Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "**Jesus loves everyone!**"

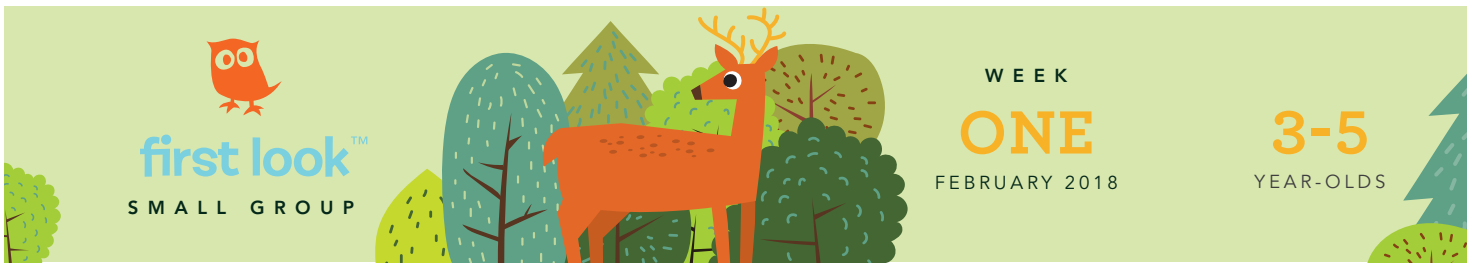
SGL: "Again! **Who does Jesus love?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "**Jesus loves everyone!**"

SGL: "And that is awesome news for EVERYONE!"

(Open Bible to verse.)

"The Bible verse we are going to learn this month will help us remember to



PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

25 MINUTES

**PRAY
TO GOD
PRAYER
ACTIVITY**



REFLECT
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

love everyone the way **Jesus loves everyone**. It says: Love each other as I have loved you, John 15:12.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

“This verse means that you and I should love people the same way Jesus loves us. And Jesus loves us A LOT! Let’s stand up and say our new verse together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do.”

CHILDREN AND SGL: “Love each other (*give yourself a big hug*) as I (*point up with both fingers*) have loved you (*bring fingers down and point all over the room at all the kids*), John 15:12.” (*Open your hands like a book.*) (*Repeat several times.*)

SGL: “Great job! (*Give each child a high five.*) Saying that verse has given me an idea of what we will write in our prayer journal before we pray. Let’s sit down and get started.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“Our verse tells us to love each other the way Jesus loves us, right? Let’s make a list of ways Jesus loves us. Then we can pray and ask God to help us do them. When I say your name, tell me one of the ways Jesus loves us.”

(Write each child’s name and what they say beside their name. Remember to print the words they say so the children can recognize their names and the letters. You may have to give some ideas of ways Jesus loves us, like He’s a good friend, He protects us, He makes us better when we’re sick, He helps us when we’re afraid, He gives us what we need, He helps us do hard things, etc.)

“Wow! Look at all the ways Jesus loves us. Doing these things for other people will show them we love them the way Jesus loves us. Let’s pray and ask God to help us. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: “Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Thank You that He loves everyone no matter what. We want to love everyone the way Jesus loves us. Please help us to do things like (*read the list the children made*), so people will know we love them. You are the best, God! We love You! In Jesus’ name, amen.”