

# JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

**TWO**

MARCH 2018

LARGE GROUP

**2**

YEAR-OLDS



## first look™

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME



**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus says, "Follow Me."

**ANDREW AND PETER;  
JOHN AND JAMES  
MATTHEW 4:18-22**

**MEMORY VERSE**

"Come and follow me,"  
Jesus said."

**MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV**

**KEY QUESTION**

Who can you follow?

**BOTTOM LINE**

I can follow Jesus.

**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.  
Gather the Fish  
Fishing  
Fishing for Books

**10**  
MIN

**WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God**

Friend Forever

**10**  
MIN

**STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways**

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.  
Follow the Fish  
Four Fishermen  
In the Net  
Fish Prints

**HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience**

Going Home  
Parent Cue



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

15 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus says, "Follow Me."

**ANDREW AND PETER;  
JOHN AND JAMES  
MATTHEW 4:18-22**

Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive worship and the Bible story. Some kids (*especially the younger ones*) may wander. That's OK. They're still listening and learning!

*First Look offers weekly Bible story videos on the DVD titled "Wonder! Look at God's Story. This DVD is available for purchase at [OrangeStore.org](http://OrangeStore.org).*

## MEMORY VERSE

"Come and follow me,  
Jesus said."

**MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV**

## WORSHIP

**WHAT YOU NEED:** CD player and this month's worship song, "Friend Forever," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video of this song is available on the "Everybody Sing!" Dance Moves DVD.

**LEADER:** "Good morning, everyone. It's so great to see you here today! I can't wait to hear another story about following Jesus. **Who can you follow? I can follow Jesus.** Yes, you can. Great job! And Jesus wants to be your friend forever. Let's sing."

## KEY QUESTION

Who can you follow?

Lead children in singing "Friend Forever."

"Wow! You are doing great with this song. It's so fun to sing together with you. **Who can you follow? I can follow Jesus.**"

## BOTTOM LINE

I can follow Jesus.

## STORY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** A Bible and 5 Little People® figures

*(Note: One of the Little People figures will be Jesus and the other four will be disciples.)*

## BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**LEADER:** "It's story time! I want (*name each child if you can*) to come sit with me."

"This is the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) It has God's true stories in it. God gave us the Bible because He loves us. We love the Bible."

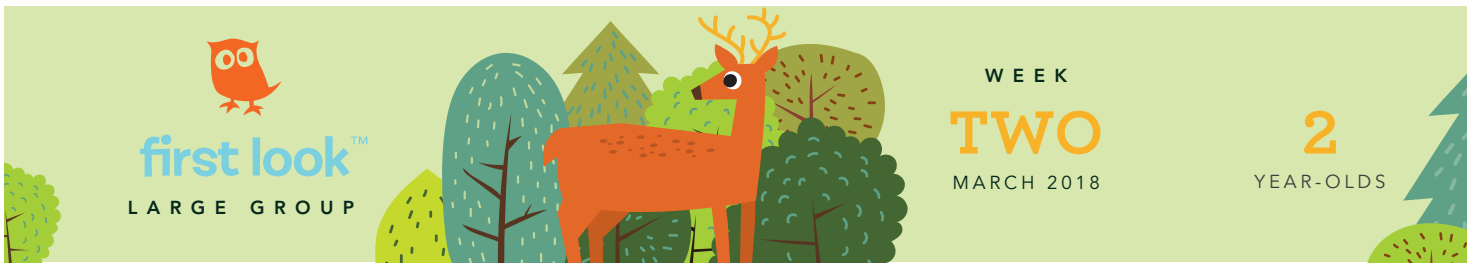
*(Give Bible a hug and lay it open in front of you.)*

"Today's Bible story is about Jesus and how He wants us to follow Him."

*(Set one of the Little People figures in front of the children)*

"Let's pretend this is Jesus. Say hi to Jesus!"

**CHILDREN AND LEADER:** "Hi, Jesus!"



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

15 MINUTES

*(Move the figures like they are walking and talking as you tell the story.)*

**LEADER:** "One day, Jesus was walking and He saw two men named Peter and Andrew.

*(Set two of the Little People figures in front of the children.)*

"Say hi to Peter and Andrew."

**CHILDREN AND LEADER:** "Hi, Peter and Andrew!"

**LEADER:** "Jesus told Peter and Andrew to follow Him and help Him tell people how much God loves them. Peter and Andrew said yes to Jesus and off they went!

"Later, Jesus saw two more men named James and John.

*(Set two more of the Little People figures in front of the children.)*

"Say hi to James and John."

**CHILDREN AND LEADER:** "Hi, James and John!"

**LEADER:** "Jesus told James and John the same thing. He told James and John to follow Him and help Him tell people how much God loves them. James and John said yes to Jesus and off they went!

"Peter, Andrew, James, and John all followed Jesus, and you can too! You and you and you and you . . . *(point to each child as you say 'you')* can follow Jesus! **Who can you follow?**"

**CHILDREN AND LEADER:** "I can follow Jesus!"

**LEADER:** "Who can you follow?"

**CHILDREN AND LEADER:** "I can follow Jesus!"

**LEADER:** "Yes, you can follow Jesus!

"Now let's close our eyes and put our hands in our lap so we can talk to God."

### PRAYER

**LEADER:** "Dear God, thank You for our good friend, Jesus. Thank you that He came to show us how to love You and love people. I pray that every person in this room will choose to follow Jesus. You are such a good God, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name, amen."