

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

FOUR

MARCH 2018

LARGE GROUP

2

YEAR-OLDS



first look™

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME



BIBLE STORY

We celebrate Jesus because He is special.

PALM SUNDAY

MATTHEW 21:1-11, 15-16

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.
Train
Walk on Leaves
Dough Leaves 🚫

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.
Coats and Leaves
Moving Jesus
Leaf Parade
Palm Leaf Color

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

We celebrate Jesus because He is special.

PALM SUNDAY
MATTHEW 21:1-11, 15-16

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.

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: "Hi, everyone! It's great to see you today. We have one more day to sing our song about how Jesus wants to be our friend forever. **Who can you follow? I can follow Jesus.** Yes! Let's sing!"

Lead children in singing "Friend Forever."

KEY QUESTION

Who can you follow?

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

STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, green crepe paper, and scissors

BOTTOM LINE

I can follow Jesus.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE STORY: Cut a strip of green crepe paper for each child to wave during the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

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

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

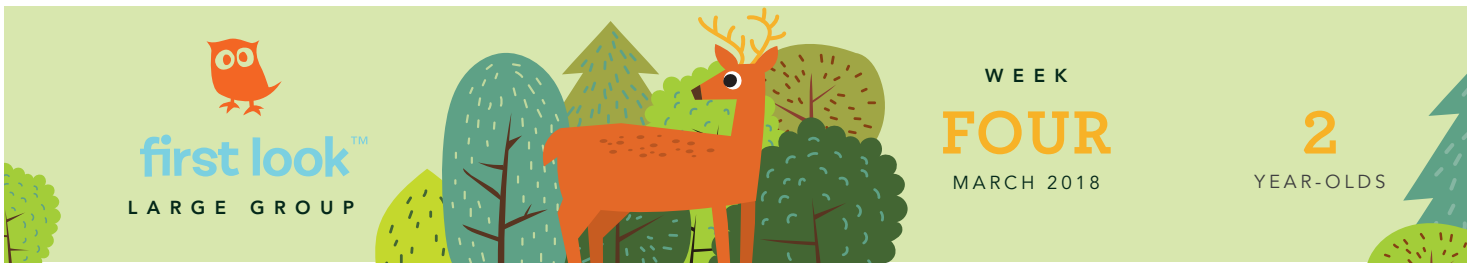
"This is the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) It has God's true stories in it. God gave us the Bible because He loves us. We love the Bible.

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

"First, I need some helpers to help me tell the Bible story. All you have to do is wave these pretend paper leaves. (*Hold up.*) Who wants to be my helpers?"

(*Give a green crepe paper strip to each child.*)

"Yay! I have lots of helpers now!"



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

15 MINUTES

"Today's Bible story is about a very, VERY special person named Jesus. Can you say Jesus? (Pause.) Good job! Jesus is special because Jesus is God's Son.

"One day Jesus was riding down a road on a donkey. When the people saw Him they got SO excited! They knew Jesus was very special, so they began laying their coats on the road and waving leaves in the air like this. (Demonstrate by waving your green paper.) They cheered, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' Wave your leaf and say that with me."

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"

LEADER: "The people had heard about all of the amazing things Jesus had done so they cheered even more! Wave your leaves and say it with me."

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"

LEADER: "The people knew that Jesus was special, so A LOT of them followed Him. They wanted to see what He was going to do and hear what He was going to say. We can follow Jesus too! When we follow Jesus we can learn how to love God and love people. **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 because Jesus loves you, and **Jesus wants to be your friend forever.** Now that is something to cheer about! One more time! Say it with me!"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"

LEADER: "Yay! Okay, now let's close our eyes and put our leaves and hands in our lap so we can talk to God.

PRAYER

LEADER: "Dear God, thank You for (name each child). Thank You for Jesus. Thank You for all of the amazing things He can do. Thank You that Jesus is our friend and He can show us how to love You and love people. I pray each child here today will choose to follow You one day. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."