

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

TWO

MARCH 2018

SMALL 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

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says, "Follow Me."

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



MOVE

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

MEMORY VERSE

"Come and follow me,"
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MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who can you follow?

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1. GATHER THE FISH

WHAT YOU NEED: Laundry basket and 20-30 foam fish

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Scatter the foam fish all around the activity area. Place the basket in the middle of activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Explain to the children that the basket is a fishing net and they should try to catch all the fish and put them in the net. Encourage the children to go around the activity area and gather the fish and place them in the net. Repeat as desired.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's go net fishing!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "This is our pretend net. (*Point to the basket.*) I see fish all over the place! (*Point to fish.*) WOW! We have so many fish! Let's work together to get all of the fish into the net!" (*Do activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You are all such awesome net fishermen! You have caught so many fish. Today we are going to hear a TRUE story from the Bible about net fishermen. I can't wait for you to hear it!"

TRANSITION: Move to Bible story time by swimming like fish.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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STORY

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says, "Follow Me."

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



PLAY

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

MEMORY VERSE

"Come and follow me,"
Jesus said."

MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who can you follow?

BOTTOM LINE

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2. FISHING

WHAT YOU NEED: Medium-sized plastic tub, water, plastic or foam fish, small nets, and a towel

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Fill the tub half full with water and sit it on the towel. Place the fish in the tub.

(Note: When working with water in the classroom, be sure that there is adult supervision at all times. Never leave the children alone with the water. After the activity, be sure to discard the tub of water immediately.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give the children the nets and challenge them to try to catch the fish.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Repeat the activity until every child has a turn to catch a fish.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We have some fish swimming in our classroom today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's all be fishermen. Use the nets to try to catch a fish!" *(Do activity.)*

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Nice work catching the fish. You are all such awesome fishermen! We are going to hear a Bible story today about two sets of brothers who were fishermen too. I can't wait to find out what happens!"

TRANSITION: Move to Bible story time by pretending to fish with nets as you walk to the story area.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

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GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says, "Follow Me."

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



EXPLORE

an activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

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

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friend forever.

3. FISHING FOR BOOKS

WHAT YOU NEED: Several preschool books about fish and sea creatures

Visit First Look's March 2018 Pinterest Board for suggestions: <https://www.pinterest.com/firstlookcurr/march-2018-gone-fishin/>

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the books out in the activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to look at the books together.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pick a favorite book from the selection of books and read it to the class.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "YAY! It is time to read and look at books!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "These books are all about fish. Very cool! You may look at the books with a friend. (Do activity.) Great job! Now let's sit together and I will read you my favorite fish book." (Finish activity.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Since all of our books are about fish, I wonder if today's Bible story is about fish too. Let's get ready to find out!"

TRANSITION: Move to Bible story time by chanting this month's Bottom Line: "I can follow Jesus!" as you walk to the story area.

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 says, "Follow Me."

**ANDREW AND PETER;
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1. FOLLOW THE FISH

WHAT YOU NEED: Floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Using the floor tape, make a large fish outline on the floor.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have the children walk around the fish in a single file line while saying the memory verse. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Wahoo! We have a giant fish on the floor!" (*Point.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Our memory verse tells us to follow Jesus, so let's follow each other around the fish while we say our memory verse." (*Do activity several times.*)

MEMORY VERSE

"Come and follow me,"
Jesus said."

MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job following each other! Our memory verse tells us to follow Jesus! **Who can you follow? I can follow Jesus!**"

KEY QUESTION

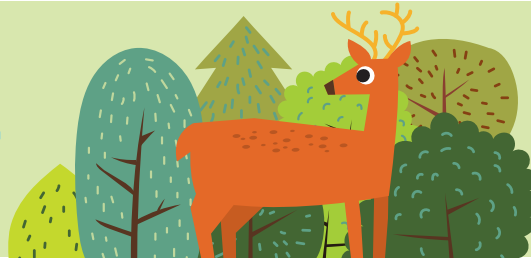
Who can you follow?

BOTTOM LINE

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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 says, "Follow Me."

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

2. FOUR FISHERMEN

WHAT YOU NEED: "Four Fishermen" and "Jesus" Activity Pages, light blue cardstock, white cardstock, scissors, fish stickers (4 per child), and glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Four Fishermen" Activity Page onto the white cardstock. Copy the "Jesus" Activity Page onto the white cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. Each child will need one Jesus cutout.

MEMORY VERSE

"Come and follow me,"
Jesus said."

MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child an Activity Page and four fish stickers. Encourage the child to place a sticker in each circle under the fishermen. Help the children glue the Jesus cutout in the dotted outline on the right side of their page.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Retell today's Bible story.

KEY QUESTION

Who can you follow?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We heard an amazing story about how we should always follow Jesus!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to make a picture to remind us of today's Bible story. (Give each child a "Four Fishermen" Activity Page.) I see four fishermen on our page. (Point.) They are Andrew and Peter and James and John. There are circles under each fisherman. (Point.) Can you place a fish sticker in each circle? (Pause.) Awesome! There are also dotted lines on the right side of the page. (Point.) That is where Jesus goes. (Hold up the Jesus cutout.) We need to glue Him there so that the fishermen can follow Jesus!" (Finish activity.)

BOTTOM LINE

I can follow Jesus.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Awesome! Your pages look great. Jesus wants everyone to follow Him. He went to Andrew and Peter and said, "Follow Me." They dropped their fishing nets and followed Jesus, and so did John and James. Jesus wants us to follow Him too. **Who can you follow? I can follow Jesus!**"

BASIC TRUTH

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friend forever.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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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 says, "Follow Me."

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JOHN AND JAMES
MATTHEW 4:18-22**

3. IN THE NET

WHAT YOU NEED: A parachute or large sheet and 15-20 foam fish

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Invite the children to stand around the parachute. Encourage the children to each take hold of the parachute and lift it off the ground. Place the fish onto the parachute.

MEMORY VERSE

"Come and follow me,"
Jesus said."

MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Instruct the children to move their arms up and down to move the parachute to catch the fish in the net. Repeat several times.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Tell the children to drop the parachute and follow Jesus, just like the fishermen did in the story.

KEY QUESTION

Who can you follow?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's pretend the parachute is a net and let's catch some fish!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to catch fish just like the Andrew, Peter, John, and James. Everyone pick up the parachute. Let's see how many fish we can catch! (Do activity.) Way to go!"

BOTTOM LINE

I can follow Jesus.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "WOW! We really caught a lot of fish! The fishermen stopped fishing to follow Jesus! We can too! (Drop parachute and walk away.) **Who can you follow? I can follow Jesus!**"

BASIC TRUTH

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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

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4. FISH PRINTS

WHAT YOU NEED: "Prints" Activity Page, white cardstock, several different fish cookie cutters, blue paint, wet wipes, and paper plates

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the Activity Page onto the cardstock. Pour approximately ¼ cup of paint onto each plate. You should have one plate for every four children.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child an Activity Page and help them place the cookie cutter in the paint. Transfer the cookie cutter to the paper to make a fish print. Help the children make several fish prints.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Lay the pages in a safe place to dry. Wipe messy fingers with the wet wipes.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to make fish!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Dip this cookie cutter (*hold up*) into the paint (*demonstrate*) and push it on the paper. Look! We made a fish! Now you try! You can make fish all over your paper!" (*Do activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "WOW! Look at the all of the fish! These are just like the fish that the fishermen were catching in our story today. Andrew, Peter, James, and John were catching fish and stopped to follow Jesus. We can follow Jesus too. **Who can you follow? I can follow Jesus!**"