

# JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

**TWO**

MARCH 2018

LARGE GROUP  
RUG

**3-5**

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.  
Gone Fishin'  
Numbers of Fish Matching  
Fishing for Pieces

**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.  
Memory Verse Fish  
Act It Out  
Fishing with Straws  
Catch the Leader  
Net Making  
Journal and Prayer

**HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience**

Going Home  
Parent Cue



PRELUDE

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10 MINUTES

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Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive worship and the Bible story. The Rug Script is written for those who pull their children to a rug (or area) to one side of their preschool space to tell the Bible story. If you gather your preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible story, you may benefit from using the Stage Script.

**WORSHIP**

Use the full mix of the monthly song provided with the curriculum to lead your preschoolers in worship. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 4:19. You will also need a CD player and this month's worship song, "Friend Forever," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves for this song are available on the "Everybody Sing" Dance Moves DVD.

**LEADER:** "Good morning, everyone! It's so good to see you today. I can't wait to sing with you. But first, tell me: **Who can you follow?**"

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

**LEADER:** "Yes, that's right! Let's sing our awesome new song all about how Jesus wants to be our friend forever.

Lead children in singing "Friend Forever," this month's worship song.

"Yay! What incredible singers you are. **Who can you follow?**"

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

**LEADER:** "That's right! **I can follow Jesus.** Our memory verse tells us the Jesus wants us to follow Him. Let's practice it. Are you ready to do it with me? (Pause.) Let's do it! "Come (motion toward yourself with hand) and follow me" (march), Jesus said (hands to mouth like yelling), Matthew 4:19. (Open your hands like a book.) Let's do it again."

**CHILDREN AND LEADER:** "Come (motion toward yourself with hand) and follow me" (march), Jesus said (hands to mouth like yelling), Matthew 4:19." (Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat several times.)

**LEADER:** "Way to go! We can follow Jesus. Jesus is God's Son.



PRELUDE

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10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

## STORY

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be “told” and not “read.” Advanced preparation is necessary.

First Look offers weekly introductory sketches and Bible stories on the DVD titled “Wonder, Look at God’s Story.”

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bible

**LEADER:** “Hey, everyone! I have a Bible story I want to tell you about how four (*hold up four fingers*) fishermen followed someone VERY special.

“And if it’s a story from the Bible, we know it’s a TRUE story, right? (*Pause.*) Right!

(*Open Bible and hold it.*)

“If you want to hear a TRUE story from the Bible, clap your hands four times. (*Pause for claps.*) Sounds like you’re ready!

“Our story begins with two brothers named Peter and Andrew.

“Peter and Andrew were fishermen. Every day they would get up early, take a big, huge net down to the water, and throw it in.

“Let’s pretend we’re fishing and we have a big net that we’re throwing into the water. Grab your pretend net. When I count to three, throw it into the water. Ready? Let’s count to three and throw our nets in the water! One, two, three!

(*Pretend to throw a net into the water.*)

“Good throw! Once Peter and Andrew threw their net into the water, they waited to see if any fish would jump in it. While they were waiting, Jesus came walking by. Jesus called out to Peter and Andrew and said (*cup hands around mouth*), ‘Come follow Me!’

“Peter and Andrew left their fishing net and went to where Jesus was standing. Jesus talked to them about how every day they come out to catch fish, but now Jesus wanted them to follow Him and help tell people about how much God loves them. It would be like catching people for God!

“Can you guess what Peter and Andrew did? (*Pause.*) They followed Jesus!

“But Jesus didn’t stop there. When He saw two more fishermen brothers named James and John, He called out to them and said (*cup hands around mouth*), ‘Come follow Me!’

“And they did! James and John followed Jesus, just like Peter and Andrew did. That made four people following Jesus. Count with me!”



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**CHILDREN AND LEADER:** "One, two, three, four!"

**LEADER:** "Wow! Four people were following Jesus. But the story doesn't stop there. We can follow Jesus too!"

"Jesus wants you and you and you and (*point to children*) ALL of you to follow Him so He can teach you about God and how to do things God's way. Then we can tell people how much God loves them!"

(*Close the Bible and lay it aside if you haven't already done so.*)

"Tell me: **Who can you follow?**"

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

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

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

**LEADER:** "You got it! That's the truth, friends. You better believe it! Let's close our eyes and pray now."

### PRAYER

**LEADER:** "Dear God, thank You for Jesus and that we can follow Him. I pray that every person in this room will choose to follow Jesus so they can be with You forever and learn how to live Your way. God, You are so good and we love You very much. In Jesus' name, amen."