

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

WEEK

THREE

MARCH 2018

LARGE GROUP
RUG

3-5

YEAR-OLDS



first look™

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME



BIBLE STORY

Anyone can follow Jesus.

MATTHEW (TAX COLLECTOR)
MATTHEW 9:9-10

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.
Pipe Cleaner Fishing
Paper Chain
Show Me the Ollie Money

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
Anyone Can Follow Jesus Mural
People
Follow, Follow, Follow, Me!
Anyone Can Follow Jesus
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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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: “Yay! I’m so glad to see you today. It’s so much fun to sing with you. I’m having an awesome time fishing with you this month. Now tell me: **Who can you follow?**”

CHILDREN AND LEADER: “**I can follow Jesus.**”

LEADER: “Yes, you can! Let’s sing this month’s song.”

Lead children in singing “Friend Forever,” this month’s worship song.

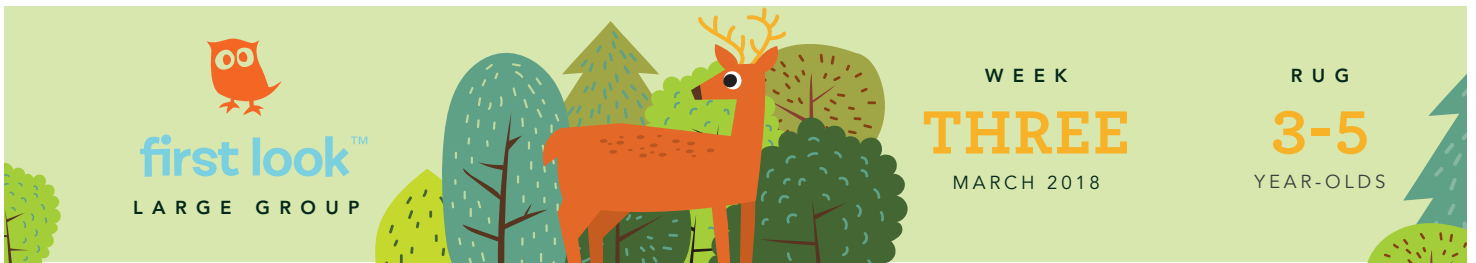
“Great singing, my friends. Remember, **I can follow Jesus. Who can you follow?**”

CHILDREN AND LEADER: “**I can follow Jesus.**”

LEADER: “Exactly. **I can follow Jesus.** It’s time to practice our memory verse. Are you ready? “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.) Do that with me.”

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: “You are all AMAZING at that verse! Have you shown your parents yet? How about your brother and sister? How about all your good friends? Make sure you show them today.”



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

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.”

BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible

LEADER: “I can’t wait to tell you the TRUE story from the Bible I have today!

(Open Bible and hold it.)

“We have been talking a lot about someone VERY special. Can anyone tell me who the VERY special person is that we’ve been talking about? *(Pause for response.)*”

“Yes! Jesus! Jesus is special because Jesus is God’s Son. Jesus came to tell us about how much God loves us and to show us how to live God’s way. That’s why we should follow Jesus. **Who can you follow?**”

CHILDREN AND LEADER: “I can follow Jesus!”

LEADER: “You got it!

“Now, last time I told you a story about how Jesus told some fishermen to leave their nets and follow Him. They followed Jesus. That means fishermen can follow Jesus.

“Well, there was another time when Jesus was walking through town and He passed a man named Matthew. Matthew was a tax collector for his job. Tax collectors would go to people and take money from them to help pay for things in the city. Most of the time, tax collectors took too much money and kept it for themselves. That’s why no one liked tax collectors.

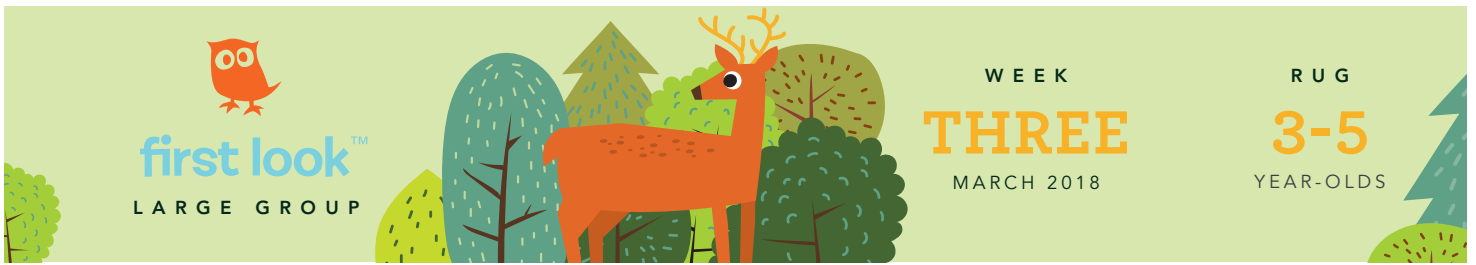
“But remember, Jesus is VERY special and He loves everyone. So, Jesus went up to Matthew, just like He did with the fishermen, and He said, ‘Follow Me.’”

“How amazing is that? Jesus wanted Matthew to follow Him just like He did the fishermen! So now we know fishermen can follow Jesus.

“And tax collectors can follow Jesus.

“But guess what! *(Pause.)* ANYONE can follow Jesus! Doctors can follow Jesus.

“Grandmas can follow Jesus.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

"Firefighters can follow Jesus.

"Teachers can follow Jesus.

"Tall people can follow Jesus. Short people can follow Jesus. Sick people, silly people, ALL the people can follow Jesus! Every person in the whole world can follow Jesus! That means you and me too! So tell me: **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, I am so thankful that everyone can follow Jesus. Thank You for loving us all, no matter what. I pray that each person in this room will choose to follow Jesus and love people the way You do. You are amazing, God! We love You. In Jesus' name, amen."