



## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a good friend when I am **excited**.

**JESUS HEALS TEN MEN**  
LUKE 17:11-16

### MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves you all the time."

**PROVERBS 17:17, NCV**

### KEY QUESTION

Who is always a good friend?

### BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is always a good friend.

### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

### PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### SMALL GROUP

**15**  
MIN

#### SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

*Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.*

Moving Ten  
Connect Emotions  
Bye-Bye Boo-Boo

### LARGE GROUP

**20**  
MIN

#### WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

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

"My Friend Forever" and "Best Friend"


Bible Story  
Prayer

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN

#### GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

*Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.*

How Do You Feel?  
Roll the Story  
Rain Cloud Experiment   
Sign Thank You  
Excited to Thank You  
Journal and Prayer

### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home  
Memory Verse Card  
Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)  
Parent Cue App



This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.



WEEK  
**TWO**  
JANUARY 2025

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

## MADE TO MOVE

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



### 1. MOVING TEN

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Plastic serving spoons, Little People® figures, plastic container, and a table

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Place spoons and the Little People® figures in the plastic container. Place the plastic

container on one side of the room across from the table.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to carry the Little People® figures in the spoon to the table, line the people up, and count to ten when all ten Little People® figures are on the table. Reset and repeat as desired.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, today we're going to play a fun game where we take our Little People® friends to the table in these spoons." (*Hold up a spoon.*)

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Okay friends, join me over here! [Children's names], come take a spoon, put a Little People® friend in the spoon, and carry it to the table. (*Pause.*) Stand your person on the table, and come back. Give your spoon to a friend so they can take a friend over. (*Continue until all ten Little People® figures have been moved to the table.*) Let's go count how many friends we have. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten! Ten friends on the table. (*Repeat as desired.*) Well friends, that was a lot of fun!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today in our true Bible Story, we'll hear about a time when Jesus helped ten men by making their boo-boos go away! Let's go hear more about those ten men."

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by counting up to ten and down from ten.

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a good friend when I am **excited**.

**JESUS HEALS TEN MEN**  
**LUKE 17:11-16**

## MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves you all the time."

**PROVERBS 17:17, NCV**

## KEY QUESTION

Who is always a good friend?

## BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is always a good friend.

## BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO PLAY

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



### 2. CONNECT EMOTIONS

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Connect Emotions" Activity Page, "Connect Jesus" Activity Page, cardstock, Connect 4® game, scissors, and painter's tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Connect Emotions" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Copy "Connect

Jesus" on cardstock, one per Small Group. Tape circles at the top of the game board, on both sides, and match them up so the same column has the smiley face, the frowny face, etc. Set the prepared game board on the table with the chips nearby.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Identify each emotion, and make the face for the children. Name an emotion and encourage a child to pick up a chip and drop it in that column. Repeat so every child has a turn to drop in a chip at least one time. Pick up the picture of Jesus and tape it over the board as a reminder that no matter how we're feeling, Jesus is a good friend.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come find a spot at the table."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Do you see all the emotions across the top of the board? (As you identify the emotions, point to each and make that face.) I see a happy face, a sad face, a mad face, a surprised face, an afraid face, an excited face, and a nervous face. When I call your name, I'll say an emotion and you'll put a chip into that slot like this. (Demonstrate.) Ready? [Child's name], do you see the happy face? Let's put a chip in that column. [Child's name], your turn! Put a chip in the sad column. (Repeat with each child alternating the emotions.) Do you know who is your friend no matter how you're feeling? (Tape the "Connect Jesus" Activity Page over the bottom of the board.) Jesus! Jesus is a good friend."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Sometimes we're happy, sometimes we're sad or excited or angry or afraid. No matter how we're feeling, Jesus is a good friend! We'll hear more about that in our Bible Story today. Come with me!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by singing: "Happy and You Know It." As you sing, make the happy part: "clap your hands," the sad part: "Say, boo-hoo," and for the excited part: "Shout, 'Hooray!'"

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

## MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role-play to enhance their learning



### 3. BYE-BYE BOO-BOO

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Large piece of butcher paper, washable marker, red pom-poms, and preschool tongs

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Draw an outline of a gingerbread/person on the butcher paper. Lay the paper on the floor or the table. Add red pom-poms to the person.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a good friend when I am **excited**.

**JESUS HEALS TEN MEN**  
**LUKE 17:11-16**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to use the tongs to remove the boo-boos from the person.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Look friends, I have a drawing of a person, and he is covered in these red pom-poms. I want us to imagine that these are boo-boos. There are so many boo-boos on this sad, sick man."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Can you help this man with the boo-boos? Yes! We can help him. Let's use these tongs to grab a boo-boo and take it away. Ready, and go! (Pause.) Grab one at a time. (Pause.) Yay, we got all the boo-boos." (Reset and repeat as desired.)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "It was fun to imagine helping someone with so many boo-boos. We can't really do that, but Jesus can! And in our story today, we'll learn how Jesus helped men with lots of boo-boos!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by cheering for Jesus after He has made someone's boo-boos all better.

### MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves you all the time."

**PROVERBS 17:17, NCV**

### KEY QUESTION

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-OLDS

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      GROUPS      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO MOVE

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



### 1. HOW DO YOU FEEL?

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Gather in your activity area, and say the Memory Verse and motions together.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a good friend when I am **excited**.

**JESUS HEALS TEN MEN**  
**LUKE 17:11-16**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Lead the children to say the verse while showing different emotions. Name a new emotion (*excited, silly, sad, surprised, afraid, mad, happy*) for each repetition.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

### MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves you all the time."

**PROVERBS 17:17, NCV**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come gather here with me! We're learning a great Memory Verse this month! Let's say it together. 'A friend (*hook index fingers twice*) loves you (*cross arms over chest*) all the time,' (*tap wrist*) Proverbs 17:17. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job! Jesus is such a good friend, and He loves us all the time."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's say our Memory Verse with some emotion. Can you say it like you're happy? Okay, say it with me. 'A friend loves you all the time,' Proverbs 17:17. That was great! This time let's say it like you're mad. (*Continue with the different emotions.*) Fantastic job, everyone!"

### KEY QUESTION

Who is always a good friend?

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "One more time with the motions. 'A friend (*hook index fingers twice*) loves you (*cross arms over chest*) all the time,' (*tap wrist*) Proverbs 17:17. (*Open hands like a book.*) If you're happy or sad or excited or afraid, Jesus is a good friend. **Jesus is always a good friend! Who is always a good friend? Jesus is always a good friend!**"

### BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is always a good friend.

### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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-OLDS

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      GROUPS      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO PLAY

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



### 2. ROLL THE STORY

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Story Game Cube" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, clear tape, and sheets/rolls of smiley face or heart stickers

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Story Game Cube" on

cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Assemble the game cube, and tape to secure. Cut the sheets/rolls of stickers into individual stickers.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Gather the children around you. Show the children the story game cube and briefly review each story picture on the cube, reading the words below each picture. Guide the children as they take turns rolling the game cube and talking about each story picture the cube lands on. After each roll, place a sticker in a pile or a row for the children to see. The goal is to collect as many stickers as you can. When you're done playing, count the stickers, and give one sticker to each child.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's play a game with this story cube! (Hold up cube.) Come sit with me and I'll show you how to play."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "This game cube has pictures from our Bible Story. (Show the pictures and read the words below each picture.) This is Jesus. **Jesus is always a good friend.** These are the ten men who had lots of boo-boos and asked Jesus for help. These are the men after Jesus made their boo-boos go away! This man was so excited that he ran back to tell Jesus, 'Thank You!' This heart is for our Bible verse that says, 'A friend loves you all the time,' Proverbs 17:17. And this is Jesus, with children like you, because Jesus wants to be your friend forever and **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**

"Now that we've looked at all of the story pictures on the game cube, let's play! Each time we talk about a story picture, we get a sticker! Let's see how many stickers we can get! (Pause.) Wow! We got lots of stickers and now we all get to have one! Way to go!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "I love learning that Jesus was a good friend to the men who had lots of boo-boos. And Jesus was a good friend to the man who was so excited he ran back to tell Jesus: 'thank You!' **Jesus is always a good friend! Who is always a good friend? Jesus is always a good friend!**"

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a good friend when I am **excited**.

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### KEY QUESTION

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO THINK**

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



**3. RAIN CLOUD EXPERIMENT\***

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Allergy Alert Poster;" cardstock; medium-sized, clear plastic jar with a wide mouth; shaving cream; water; blue food coloring; spoon; plastic tablecloth; clear, plastic punch cup; and pipettes or eyedroppers

*\*Note: Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at the door to your room.*

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus is a good friend when I am **excited**.

**JESUS HEALS TEN MEN**  
**LUKE 17:11-16**

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** \*Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list shaving cream and blue food coloring, and post at the door. Cover the table with the tablecloth. Fill the jar 3/4 with water. Fill the cup half full of water. Place several drops of blue food coloring in the cup of water and mix with the spoon. Add more blue food coloring if needed to obtain a dark blue color. This will be the rain. Place the jar and the cup with blue water on the table.

**MEMORY VERSE**

"A friend loves you all the time."

**PROVERBS 17:17, NCV**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Show the children the jar of water and tell them that you are going to do a science experiment to make it rain in the jar. Explain that rain comes from clouds. Add clouds to your jar by spraying the shaving cream over the water, completely filling the jar. Then, use the pipette to gather blue rain from the cup and drop it on the shaving cream clouds. Allow the children to help you do this. Explain to the children that when the clouds get heavy with all the rain, the rain falls from the clouds. Keep adding the blue rain until it comes out of the shaving cream and into the clear water in the jar.

**KEY QUESTION**

Who is always a good friend?

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

**BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus is always a good friend.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come sit at the table with me. Today, we'll do an amazing science experiment. We're going to make it rain inside this jar! How cool is that?"

**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "I like it when it rains. It makes everything smell so fresh outside and helps our flowers and trees grow. Rain comes from clouds. To make it rain inside our jar, we'll need clouds. (Add shaving cream.) Now we have fluffy clouds! When water is in the clouds, it becomes heavy, and the clouds can't hold it all. Then the water falls out, and that gives us rain. Let's see what happens when we put water in our clouds. (Add blue rain water with the pipette.) We need lots of water. Will you help me? (Encourage each child to add blue rain water with the pipette.) WOW! Look! The clouds are heavy, and now it's raining in the jar! Look! Do you see the rain coming down from the clouds? (Pause.) That was so AMAZING! I'm so excited we made it rain!"



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**TWO**  
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SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      GROUPS      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today we learned that Jesus is a good friend when we are excited, like the man who was so excited that Jesus made his boo-boos all better. The man ran back to thank Jesus for helping him! **Jesus is always a good friend! Who is always a good friend? Jesus is always a good friend.**"





WEEK  
**TWO**  
JANUARY 2025

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      GROUPS      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO MOVE

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



### 4. SIGN THANK YOU

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Sign Thank You" Activity Page, cardstock, and painter's tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Sign Thank You" on cardstock, one per Small Group. Tape to the wall at child's height.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a good friend when I am **excited**.

**JESUS HEALS TEN MEN**  
**LUKE 17:11-16**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Teach children how to say "thank you" in sign language by touching your fingertips to your chin and then moving your hand forward. Encourage children to run to the picture of Jesus and sign: "thank You." Repeat as desired.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

### MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves you all the time."

**PROVERBS 17:17, NCV**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come stand with me over here. Today we're going to run and tell Jesus 'thank You' in a very special way."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "We are going to say 'thank you' in sign language. Let me show you how. Touch your chin with the fingertips on one hand like this (*demonstrate*) then straighten your arm out in front of you like this. (*Demonstrate.*)

### KEY QUESTION

Who is always a good friend?

"Okay, let's practice that part. 'Thank you!' (*Touch fingertips to chin, then move hand forward.*) Great job! Now, let's learn how to say: Jesus. (*Tap right middle finger in left palm, then tap left middle finger in right palm.*) Ready to try? 'Jesus!' (*Tap right middle finger in left palm, then tap left middle finger in right palm.*) Fantastic! Now let's put it all together. 'Thank You, (*touch fingertips to chin, then move hand forward*) Jesus!' (*Tap right middle finger in left palm, then tap left middle finger in right palm.*)

### BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is always a good friend.

"I think we're ready to run tell Jesus: 'Thank You!' On the count of three, let's run to Jesus. One, two, three! (*Pause.*) 'Thank You, (*touch fingertips to chin then move hand forward*) Jesus!' (*Tap right middle finger in left palm, then tap left middle finger in right palm.*) Let's go back and do it again! (*Repeat as desired.*) That was exciting seeing you tell Jesus: 'Thank You!'"

### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Jesus was a good friend to the sick men in our story, and Jesus is a good friend to you and me too, because **Jesus is always a good friend! Who is always a good friend? Jesus is always a good friend.**"



PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO CREATE**

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft



**5. EXCITED TO THANK YOU**  
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Excited to Thank You" Activity Page, cardstock, crayons, glue sticks, clear tape, scissors, and a permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Excited to Thank You" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Fold each paper into a thinner strip by folding along the two long solid lines. Next, fold the short solid line between the two arrows, folding forward to make a "valley." Then, fold the rest of the short solid lines, folding backward to make "peaks." See our Pinterest page for an example: [bit.ly/3BNX1pZ](https://bit.ly/3BNX1pZ). Write each child's name on their paper.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to color their Jesus and sick man cutouts. Help fold each child's paper, and show children where to glue each cutout. Fold and glue the ends together, then demonstrate how to make the man come back.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come sit at the table with me. I have a super-exciting picture for you to make to help us review our Bible Story."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Color your two cutouts. One is the sick men, and the other is the excited man who ran back to Jesus to say: 'Thank You!' (Pause.) Now glue the sick men here on the x. (Pause.) Great job! Now glue the excited man here on the heart. (Pause.) I'll fold the rest and tape the ends together. (Stand the sick men up.) The sick men were so excited that Jesus made their boo-boos go away! One of the men was so excited that he ran back to tell Jesus: 'Thank You!' (Quickly tap/push down on the excited man's head and watch him pop up.) Wow! That was cool! You try. (Pause.)"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "**Jesus is always a good friend.** Jesus was a good friend to the sick men, and Jesus is a good friend to you and me too. **Who is always a good friend? Jesus is always a good friend.**"

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus is a good friend when I am **excited**.

**JESUS HEALS TEN MEN**  
**LUKE 17:11-16**

**MEMORY VERSE**

"A friend loves you all the time."

**PROVERBS 17:17, NCV**

**KEY QUESTION**

Who is always a good friend?

**BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus is always a good friend.

**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO REFLECT**  
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



**6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER**  
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

*Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.*

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus is a good friend when I am **excited**.

**JESUS HEALS TEN MEN**  
**LUKE 17:11-16**

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Proverbs 17:17. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

Encourage the children to skip with excited faces as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

**MEMORY VERSE**

"A friend loves you all the time."

**PROVERBS 17:17, NCV**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Memory Verse and Hand Motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of things that make them feel excited.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

**KEY QUESTION**

Who is always a good friend?

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "It's Small Group time! Today, we're going to skip with excited faces, like this! (*Make an excited face.*) Show me your excited face! (*Pause.*) Wow! You look so excited! Keep that excited face and skip with me! (*Skip with an excited face as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*)"

**BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus is always a good friend.

"And . . . stop! We're here! Thank you for skipping with me! Now let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, ten men asked Jesus for help. Why did the men need Jesus to help them? (*Pause for response.*) You're right! The men had boo-boos all over their skin. What did Jesus do? (*Pause for response.*) Jesus made their boo-boos all better! One of the men was so excited that he ran back to tell Jesus: 'Thank You!' Jesus was a good friend to the men when they were sad and had boo-boos on their skin, and Jesus was a good friend when one of the men was so excited that he ran back to tell Jesus: 'Thank You!' Wow! **Jesus is always a good friend! Who is always a good friend? Jesus is always a good friend!**"



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

"And the Bible verse we're learning talks about how a good friend loves you all the time. It says, 'A friend (*hook index fingers twice*) loves you (*cross arms over chest*) all the time,' (*tap wrist*) Proverbs 17:17. (*Open hands like a book.*) Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'A friend (*hook index fingers twice*) loves you (*cross arms over chest*) all the time,' (*tap wrist*) Proverbs 17:17. (*Open hands like a book.*) You sound great! Way to go! (*Give fist bumps.*) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*)

"Today we're going to make a list of things that make us feel excited in our journal. I get excited about things like opening presents, or when my dog is happy to see me, or when I get to spend time with my friends. It can be anything that makes you have a face like this! (*Make an excited face.*) So, when I say your name, tell me one thing that makes you feel excited, and I will write it in our journal." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Reading this list makes me feel excited! (*Hold up journal.*) Let's use our list when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for all of the things that make us feel excited, like (*read the list the children made*) . . . and Jesus! Yes, knowing that **Jesus is always a good friend** is the most exciting thing ever! We love You, God! In Jesus' name. Amen."



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PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      GROUPS      HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and engage with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing fun, age-appropriate, hands-on activities that introduce new concepts they will hear in the Bible Story.

*Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.*

#### 1. MOVING TEN

**Made to Move:** An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Plastic serving spoons
- Little People® figures, ten per Small Group
- Plastic container
- Table

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Place spoons and Little People® figures in the plastic container.
- Place the plastic container on one side of the room across from the table.

#### 2. CONNECT EMOTIONS

**Made to Play:** An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "Connect Emotions" Activity Page
- "Connect Jesus" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Connect 4® game
- Scissors
- Painter's tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Copy "Connect Emotions" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Copy "Connect Jesus" on cardstock, one per Small Group.

- Tape circles at the top of the game board, on both sides, and match them up so the same column has the smiley face, the frowny face, etc.
- Set the prepared game board on the table with the chips nearby.

#### 3. BYE-BYE BOO-BOO

**Made to Imagine:** An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role-play to enhance their learning

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Large piece of butcher paper
- Washable marker
- Red pom-poms
- Preschool tongs

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Draw an outline of a gingerbread/person on the butcher paper.
- Lay the paper on the floor or the table.
- Add red pom-poms to the person.

### GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

*Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.*

#### 1. HOW DO YOU FEEL?

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

**Made to Move:** An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- No supplies needed



WEEK  
**TWO**  
JANUARY 2025

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

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HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### 2. ROLL THE STORY

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**Made to Play:** An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "Story Game Cube" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Clear tape
- Sheets/rolls of smiley face or heart stickers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Copy "Story Game Cube" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group.
- Assemble the game cube and tape to secure.
- Cut the sheets/rolls of stickers into individual stickers.

### 3. RAIN CLOUD EXPERIMENT\*

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**Made to Think:** An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- \*"Allergy Alert Poster"
- Cardstock
- Medium-sized, clear plastic jar with a wide mouth
- Shaving cream
- Water
- Blue food coloring
- Spoon
- Plastic tablecloth
- Clear plastic punch cup
- Pipettes or eyedroppers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list shaving cream and blue food coloring, and post at the door.
- Cover the table with the tablecloth.
- Fill the jar  $\frac{3}{4}$  with water.
- Fill the cup half full of water.
- Place several drops of blue food coloring in the cup of water and mix with the spoon.
- Add more blue food coloring if needed to obtain a dark blue color. (*This will be the rain.*)
- Place the jar and the cup of blue water on the table.

### 4. SIGN THANK YOU

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**Made to Move:** An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "Sign Thank You" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Painter's tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Copy "Sign Thank You" on cardstock, one per Small Group.
- Tape to the wall at child's height.

### 5. EXCITED TO THANK YOU

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**Made to Create:** An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "Excited to Thank You" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Clear tape
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Copy "Excited to Thank You" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Fold each paper into a thinner strip by folding along the two long solid lines. Next, fold the short solid line between the two arrows, folding forward to make a "valley." Then, fold the rest of the short solid lines, folding backward to make "peaks." See our Pinterest page for an example: [bit.ly/3BNX1pZ](https://bit.ly/3BNX1pZ).
- Write each child's name on their paper.



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### 6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

#### [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**Made to Reflect:** An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible
- Journal (Check out the Ollie journal at [bit.ly/3B4Z71j](https://bit.ly/3B4Z71j).)
- Fun-shaped pen (Check out the Ollie Pen at [bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh](https://bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh).)

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place it in the Bible at Proverbs 17:17. *Note: Keep the Memory Verse Card in your Bible all month.*

### HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue App**.

### FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

- Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. [bit.ly/FL\\_RainOrShine](https://bit.ly/FL_RainOrShine)