



WEEK TWO - JULY 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

Bible Story: *You've Got a Friend in Me • John 1:43-51*

Bottom Line: *Find friends who help you trust in Jesus.*

Memory Verse: *"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." - Philippians 1:6 NIV*

Life App: *Confidence - Living like you believe what God says is true.*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what.*

Summary: Next, we look to **John 1:43-51**. John recounts the start of Jesus ministry when he was starting to choose the 12 Disciples. One of those disciples was a guy named Phillip. Phillip was so overwhelmed when he met Jesus that he couldn't wait to tell others. Phillip found his friend Nathanael and invited him to meet Jesus. Turns out that Jesus had big plans for Nathanael too!

8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing/building/designing

What You Need: Paper; markers

What You Do:

- Set out paper and markers.
- Direct kids to draw pictures of their friends and tell the group what they love about those friends.

2. My Friend is...

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Sit in a circle.
- Ask the kids to think of single words that describe a friend such as: nice, happy, fun, and so on.
- Begin a word-repetition game by saying, "My friend is," and then add a word that describes a friend.
- Ask the next person to repeat what you said but add another word to the end of the sentence.
- Continue around the circle, letting each child add a new word until someone forgets one of the words. Then start over.
- Here are some words to suggest if kids run out of ideas:
 - Happy
 - fun
 - smart

- short
- strong
- cute
- helpful
- silly
- kind
- wise
- nice
- tall
- rich
- old
- good

What You Say:

"Friends come in all shapes and sizes: tall, short, big, and small. Friends make us happy and help us when we feel sad or lonely. [Transition] Today we're going to hear about the very best thing a friend can do. Let's go to Large Group and find out."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Find friends who help you trust Jesus. "We all need people in our life who will help us live fully alive. We want kids to figure out who, in their life is encouraging them to have faith in Jesus."*

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

1. Can't Wait to Tell You

[Bible Story Review]

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines & working as a group

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Ask kids to scatter around the room and then sit down far enough away from each other that they can't touch each other.
- Explain that you will whisper something about today's Bible story into someone's ear then you'll point to another child in the room.
- He must quickly run to the person you pointed to and whisper the message into his ear.
- Then he can point to someone else for the second child to go tell.
- Continue until everyone has heard the message, and then let the last child say the message out loud.
- Repeat the game several times. After each round, let kids tell you what part of the Bible story the message reminds them of.
- Here are suggestions of key points to whisper in the game as well as a few silly statements just for fun:
 - Philip faithfully followed.
 - Nathanael's name spelled backwards is Lean-ah-tan.
 - True friends truly tell the truth.
 - Philip told his friend Nathanael about Jesus.
 - Nathanael is not a spaniel.
 - **[Bottom Line] Find friends who help you trust Jesus.**

What You Say:

"When you're excited about something, you can't wait to talk about it with your friends. You want your friend to get excited too, right? That's why Philip ran to his friend Nathanael and said, 'Come and meet Jesus.' I don't think Philip whispered it in Nathanael's ear the way we did in our game. I think he was so excited that he spoke very loud and very fast because he didn't want Nathanael to miss out on meeting Jesus. Good friends want to help us know and follow Jesus. I'd say that makes Philip the best friend Nathanael ever had!"

2. Philippian Handshakes

[Memory Verse Activity]

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain & taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Bible

What You Do:

- Show kids where Philippians 1:6 is found in the Bible and then read the verse aloud.
- Help kids create several handshake-movements to go with separate parts of the verse. For example:
 - **Being confident of this** (Create a high-five handshake.)
 - **that he who began a good work in you** (Create a pointing finger handshake.)
 - **will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.** (Create a two-handed high-five handshake.)
- Say the memory verse with the children several times using the handshakes to help them remember the different phrases.

What You Say:

*"Sometimes, when you meet a new person, you shake their hand. It's a polite gesture that says, 'I'm glad to meet you.' It's really great to make new friends, isn't it? The best kinds of friends are the ones who care about following Jesus. So, **[Bottom Line]** find friends who help you trust Jesus. And BE that kind of friend to others. Learning to be a good friend is part of God's plan for you. Philippians 1:6 promises that God will keep working in your life, and He will use good friends to help you grow stronger in Him."*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Sit in a circle
- Ask them to think of one friend that they could lean on to help trust in Jesus.

- As you pray, have them think of that one friend,.

What You Say:

"God wants you to [Bottom Line] find friends who help you trust Jesus. One of the ways we help someone is by praying for them. Let's do that now.

"Think of your friend as I pray. When I pause, pray silently by finishing the sentence with your own words. Lord, thank You for my friend (pause). I can help my friend trust you this week by (pause).

Now, let's pray silently as I pray out loud. Lord, thank You for being my best friend. Please give me good friends who help me trust You and follow You. In Jesus' name, amen."