



## WEEK 2 - February 2020 - PRESCHOOL

**Bible Story Focus:** Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong.

Zacchaeus • *Luke 19:1-10*

**Memory Verse:** “Love each other as I have loved you.” John 15:12, NIV

**Key Question:** Who does Jesus love?

**Bottom Line:** Jesus loves everyone.

**Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

### **Make it True**

*Captivate kids with a bible story and help them understand how it connects to their world.*

-Large group time

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**9:25-9:45 | 10:55-11:15 | 12:25-12:45 - MAKE IT TRUE**

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**LARGE GROUP SCRIPT:**

**Bible Story**

**What You Need:** A Bible, plastic coins in a bag, a stepladder, and an artificial ficus tree

*(Preset the stepladder behind the ficus tree on one side of the stage.)*

*(Storyteller enters carrying the bag of plastic coins and a Bible.)*

**STORYTELLER:** “Hello, everyone! I’ve got a story about someone who didn’t know if Jesus loved him. Do you want to hear it? If you’re ready for a story, on the count of three, say, ‘Tell me a story!’ One, two, three!”

**CHILDREN:** “Tell me a story!”

**STORYTELLER:** “This true story from the Bible begins with a guy named Zacchaeus. That’s a fun name to say. Can you say that name with me?”

*(Option: Story Image W2 01)*

**CHILDREN and STORYTELLER:** “Zacchaeus.”

**STORYTELLER:** “Zacchaeus was a tax collector. That meant his job was to collect money from everyone in town. Let me show you what I mean.

*(Walk to the edge of the stage or out into the audience and select three children to stand.)*

“Okay, let’s say each of you have three coins.

*(Hand each of the three children three coins from the bag.)*

“Now, each person owes Zacchaeus one coin. That’s ALL he’s supposed to collect. But that’s NOT what Zacchaeus collected. Instead of taking just one coin, Zacchaeus took more. Go ahead, guys. Pretend I’m Zacchaeus, and give me your coins.

*(Hold the bag open and collect three coins from each child.)*

“Zacchaeus would take more money from people than he was supposed to. And do you know what he did with the extra money? *(Whisper)* He kept it for himself! It was wrong.

And it made everyone mad at Zacchaeus. *(To the volunteers)* Thanks for your help, friends. You can have a seat.

*(Head back to the stage if necessary.)*

“One day, something wonderful happened. Jesus came to town!

*(Option: Story Image W2 02)*

“Everyone was so excited to see Him. Zacchaeus was excited, too. But he was too short to see over the crowd of people. Maybe Zacchaeus could jump up to see Jesus over the crowd.

*(Jump up and down a few times.)*

“The problem with jumping is that you always come back down! So that wasn’t going to work. If only there was something Zacchaeus could climb to see over all the people!

*(Children should start pointing out the tree onstage.)*

“What’s that? You see a tree? *(Look over at the tree.)* Oh, yes! That’s perfect. Zacchaeus could climb a tree. Let’s cheer him on. Say it with me: climb, climb, climb, climb.”

*(Option: Story Image W2 03)*

*(Walk over the ficus tree and climb the stepladder.)*

“Now Zacchaeus could see Jesus! And Jesus could see him. Jesus said, ‘Zacchaeus! Come down right away. I want to go to your house today!’ All the people thought, ‘Why would Jesus want to go with HIM? He’s made so many bad choices.’

*(Step down from the ladder and walk back to the center of the stage.)*

“But do you think there is anything we can do to make Jesus stop loving us? *(Pause.)* Nope.

“Even if we get put in timeout, does Jesus still love us? *(Pause.)* He does. Even if we forget to obey our grandmas, does Jesus still love us? *(Pause.)* Yes! And Jesus loved Zacchaeus, too. Zacchaeus was so happy that Jesus loved him and was his friend that he gave back all the money he took from the people.

*(Option: Story Image W2 04)*

“Did you like the story? If you did, give it two thumbs up! *(Pause.)*

**[Bottom Line]** “Jesus loves everyone. He loves us when we make good choices and when we make some not-so-good choices. Jesus loved Zacchaeus and He loves you, too. So tell me: **Who does Jesus love?**”

**CHILDREN:** **[Bottom Line]** “Jesus loves everyone.”

**STORYTELLER:** “He sure does. Let’s pray!”

### **PRAYER**

**STORYTELLER:** “God, thank You for the reminder that **[Bottom Line]** Jesus loves everyone. Even if we mess up, Jesus loves us always. Help us to remember that this week. We love You. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”

*(Host enters; Storyteller exits.)*

**CG: Bible Story Wrap-Up Video**

### **Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God**

*Engage kids’ hearts through dynamic and interactive worship in a Large Group setting.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “Hi, friends! It’s AWESOME to see you today because this month we’re learning that **[Bottom Line]** Jesus loves everyone! **Who does Jesus love?**”

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** **[Bottom Line]** “Jesus loves everyone.”

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “That’s amazing, isn’t it? Jesus wants to be our friend forever! Let’s sing this song to Him.

**(Lead children in singing “I’ve Got a Friend,” this month’s worship song.)**

“Jesus is our friend forever! Tell me: **Who does Jesus love?**”

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** **[Bottom Line]** “Jesus loves everyone.”

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “Do you remember our verse from the Bible this month? It says: *Love each other (give yourself a big hug) as I (point up with both fingers) have loved you (bring fingers down and point all over the room at all the kids),* John 15:12. *(Open hands like a book.)* Let’s do that again!

*(Say the verse and do the motions several times together.)*

“That’s right! We can love others because Jesus loves us! **[Bottom Line]** Jesus loves everyone. That makes me want to say, ‘Wow Oh Wow!’ Let’s sing this out together.

**Lead children in singing “Wow Oh Wow.”**

“Jesus is amazing. And He wants to be your friend forever. ***[Bottom Line]*** **Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love?”**

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER: *[Bottom Line]* “Jesus loves everyone.”**