



WEEK 3 - February 2020 - PRESCHOOL

Bible Story Focus: Jesus is our friend even when no one else is.

The Unloved Woman • *John 8:2-11*

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 Fun

Activities to help kids transition into the classroom and set up the bible story.

-Heart Match up

Make it True

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

-Large group time

Make it Stick

Activities and crafts that help kids personalize the story and apply the truths to their life.

-Fast train, slow train
-All aboard
-Jesus loves everyone
-Journal and prayer

9:10-9:25 | 10:40-10:55 | 12:10-12:25 - MAKE IT FUN

1. Heart Match Up

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

What You Need: "Hearts" Activity Page, colored cardstock, scissors, and a marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Hearts" on cardstock and cut out one heart per child. Use the marker to number each heart from 1 through 5, with one number per heart. Write the numbers as large as you can in the center of each heart. Make sure there are least two hearts with each number, as children will work to find a friend with a matching numbered heart.

During the Activity: Gather the children in the activity area. Give each child one heart cutout. Encourage the children to walk around and find a friend or friends with the same number and sit down together. Once all the children are seated, let the groups show their numbers and then gather the hearts. Pass them out again and let the children search to find a match. Repeat as time and interest allow.

After the Activity: Gather all the hearts for clean-up.

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

Large Group Overview:

Story Focus: Jesus is our friend even when no one else is. What about the woman who was drug out and condemned in public by her accusers? We call her the unloved woman because that's what she was. A woman who knew little of what true love really is. Yes, she had made bad choices. Yes, she was guilty. And this made people look down on her. But it wasn't that way with Jesus. Jesus loved her and wanted to be her friend, no matter what.

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 MAKE IT STICK

1. Fast Train, Slow Train

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

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Have the children stand in front of you.

During the Activity: Invite the children to say the memory verse like a fast train. Have the children run in place fast and say the verse at a fast pace. Repeat several times. Invite the children to say the memory verse like a slow train. Have the children take slow steps and say the memory verse at a slow pace. Repeat several times.

After the Activity: Alternate between the fast train and the slow train. Repeat as desired.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We are going to say our memory verse like a TRAIN! All aboard!"

During the Activity: "First, let's be a FAST train! Run in place super-duper fast! (*Demonstrate.*) Now let's say our memory verse really fast! (*Do activity.*) Great job! Now let's be a SLOOOWW train. Walk really slooowww (*demonstrate*) and say the verse in a reeaally sloooww voice." (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "You are awesome trains! Nice work! Our memory verse tells us that Jesus loves everyone and that we should love everyone, too! **Who does Jesus love?** [**Bottom Line**] **Jesus loves everyone!**"

2. All Aboard!

Talk About God | Bible Story Review

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning as they review the Bible story

(Note: There will be a new train ticket each week to go with the story being reviewed.)

What You Need: "Unloved Woman Train Ticket" Activity Pages, cardstock, scissors, sheets of smiley face stickers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Make enough copies of "Unloved Woman Train Ticket" on cardstock so when cut apart each child can have one train ticket.

During the Activity: Put on your pretend conductor hat and blow your train whistle. Give each child an “Unloved Woman Train Ticket” and invite children to get on the train. They will show you their “Unloved Woman Train Ticket” to get on the train. When they show you their ticket, place a smiley face sticker on the white space and then show them where to sit. As you review the story, every time you say the word “FRIEND” the children will hold up their “Unloved Woman Train Ticket” with the smiley face sticker on it.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “All aboard! (*Blow train whistle.*) Come and get your train ticket! All aboard the story train! Get your train ticket! (*Repeat until you have given every child a train ticket.*) Does everyone have a train ticket? (*Pause.*) Great! Show me your train ticket and you can get in one of the train cars.”

(*Once everyone is in a train car*) “I need you to listen very closely. Every time I say the word ‘FRIEND,’ I want you to hold up your train ticket. Let’s practice. Jesus is our FRIEND! (*Hold up ticket*) Good job! Okay, have your tickets ready. Here we go!

“One day, Jesus saw a woman who did not have any FRIENDS. (*Hold up ticket.*) She had made some wrong choices and instead of being kind and helping her, people stopped being her FRIEND. (*Hold up ticket.*) In fact, the people said mean words to her. They were not being a good FRIEND (*hold up ticket*) at all! But then Jesus walked up, and He was the woman’s FRIEND (*hold up ticket*) when no one else was. He was kind to her and helped her because **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone.** That’s what FRIENDS (*hold up ticket*) do. They love everyone!”

After the Activity: “Thank you for riding the story train with me. Keep your train ticket somewhere special so you can remember to be a good friend and love everyone the way **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone.**”

3. Jesus Loves EVERYONE!

Live for God | Application Activity

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

What You Need: “Everyone” Activity Page, cardstock, and washable markers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the “Everyone” Activity Page onto cardstock (one page per child). Set the washable markers on the table.

During the Activity: Pass out an “Everyone” Activity Page to each child. Point out the hearts on the page. Encourage the children to use the markers to trace all the hearts on

the page. Use the dialogue below to talk about how Jesus loves everyone as they're working.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Do you see the hearts on your page? Let's use the markers to trace all the hearts! These hearts remind me of what we're learning this month. **Who does Jesus love?** (Pause.) Yes! **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone!** See all the people in the center of this heart? They remind me, too, that **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone.**"

After the Activity: "Right here it says: *Love each other as I have loved you*, John 15:12. Jesus loves you and He loves me. He loves the woman from our Bible story today who didn't have any friends. He loves EVERYONE! **Who does Jesus love? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone.**"

4. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

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

What You Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at John 15:12. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each small group.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time. Today we are going to smile our best smiles while we walk to our Small Group spot. Show me your smiles!"

(Pause and look.)

"Look at those smiles! Your smiles are making me smile! Let's keep smiling while we walk to our spot.

(Continue to encourage the children to smile as you lead them to your Small Group spot.)

"We made it! Now let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

(Open the Bible and lay it open in front of the children.)

"Smiling at people is one of the easiest ways to be a good friend. The woman in our story today did not have a lot of people smiling at her. In fact, there were a lot of angry people frowning at her.

"But Jesus was different. Jesus was her friend and smiled at her, even when no one else did. Do you know why Jesus was her friend when no one else was? Because **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love?**"

CHILDREN and SGL: *[Bottom Line]* “Jesus loves everyone!”

SGL: “And He wants us to love everyone too. Listen to the Bible verse we are learning.

(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

“Love each other as I have loved you, John 15:12.

“Did you hear that? Jesus told us to *(point to verse in Bible): Love each other as I have loved you.*

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

“Let’s stand up and say that verse together with the motions so we can remember to love people the way Jesus loves us.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “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 your hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)*

SGL: “Awesome!

(Give two thumbs up and a big smile to the children.)

“Now let’s sit down, write in our prayer journal, and talk to God.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“There are lots of ways we can be a good friend to people when no one else is. Let’s make a list, and when we pray we can ask God to help us be a good friend.

(Say each child’s name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

(Suggestions for being a friend when no one else is: share, sit with someone who is alone, say kind words, wave, smile, etc.)

“This is a great list! We will be such good friends to people if we do these things. Let’s pray and ask God to help us. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, Jesus is such a good, good friend. He is a friend to everyone, even when no one else is. Help us to look for ways to be a good friend like Jesus, especially to people who don’t have any friends. Help us do things like . . . (*read the list the children made*). We really want to love people the way Jesus loves us—and that’s a lot! We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”