



WEEK 1 - April 2021 - TWO'S

Today's Bible Story: Jesus is alive!

Easter • *Matthew 26:20-30; 27:45-50; 28:1-7*

Memory Verse: "How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

Ephesians 3:18, NIV

Key Question: Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be our friend forever.

Make it Fun

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

- One, Two, Three

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.

-Memory verse
-Jesus is Alive
-Jesus is Alive Kite

First 15 min - MAKE IT FUN

1. One, Two, Three

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 children stand in front of you in the activity area.

During the Activity: Invite the children to count to three then do a movement. For example, "One, two, three," jump!

Movements: jump, twist, clap hands, stomp, run in place, and jazz hands (*Hold hands palms out in front of you with fingers wide and wave.*)

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's get moving!"

During the Activity: "Let's count to three then do a fun movement. Let's try one together. First, we will jump. Here we go! One, two, three, JUMP! (*Do activity.*) Great job! Let's do another one! (*Continue and finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "Great job! Today, we'll count to three in our Bible story. I can't wait to find out what happens!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by counting to three as you walk to the story area.

Large group - MAKE IT TRUE (*snack*)

What You Need: This month's worship song, "Very Best Friend."

LEADER: "Hello, friends! It's time for worship! Worship is one BIG way we can show Jesus how much we love Him. Did you know that Jesus wants to be YOUR friend forever? It's true. **Who wants to be your friend forever?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [*Bottom Line*] "Jesus wants to be my friend forever."

LEADER: "He sure does! He is our very best friend. Let's sing this together!"

Lead children in singing "Very Best Friend," this month's worship song.

LEADER: "That was AWESOME! Jesus IS the very best friend I know! He loves you, and He loves me. I'm so glad to know for sure that **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

Last 20 min- MAKE IT STICK

1. Memory Verse with Motions

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.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say the memory verse and do the following motions in front of the children.

"How wide (*hold arms out wide*) and long (*raise one hand high and hold one hand low*) and high (*jump*) and deep (*crouch*) is the love (*hug yourself*) of Christ," (*point up*) Ephesians 3:18. (*Open hands like a book.*)

During the Activity: Say the verse again with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I'm going to say our new memory verse. Everyone, watch me!

"How wide (*hold arms out wide*) and long (*raise one hand high and hold one hand low*) and high (*jump*) and deep (*crouch*) is the love (*hug yourself*) of Christ,' (*point up*) Ephesians 3:18." (*Open hands like a book.*)

During the Activity: "Now, let's do it together! Are you ready?"

"How wide (*hold arms out wide*) and long (*raise one hand high and hold one hand low*) and high (*jump*) and deep (*crouch*) is the love (*hug yourself*) of Christ,' (*point up*) Ephesians 3:18." (*Open hands like a book.*)

After the Activity: "Our memory verse tells us that Jesus loves us high, wide, long, and deep! He loves us so much and wants to be our friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? [Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

2. Jesus Is Alive!

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

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

What You Need: Craft pom poms

What You Do:

During the Activity: Give each child some pom poms to hold. The leader will have several pom poms in their hands as well. The leader will review the story and say, "One, two, three," then everyone will toss their pom poms in the air as they say, "Jesus is alive!" The leader and children will pick up the pom poms and do it again. Repeat as long as time and interest allow.

After the Activity: Talk about how Jesus is alive and He wants to be our friend forever.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I'm so happy to see you today! Come stand with me."

During the Activity: "I have some pom poms I want you to hold. *(Give each child pom poms.)* Now hold your pom poms and listen. When I count to three, we will throw our pom poms in the air and say, 'Jesus is alive!'

"Jesus told His friends He had to go away, but He would come back. Some angry people took Jesus away and hurt Him so bad that He died. Jesus' friends buried Him. They were so sad that their good friend Jesus was gone. But then, on the third day, Jesus came back! Here we go! One, two, three! *(Throw pom poms in the air.)* Jesus is alive! Yay! Jesus is alive! Let's pick up the pom poms and do that again." *(Repeat.)*

After the Activity: "Jesus is alive because He wants to be your friend forever. So, when I ask you, '**Who wants to be your friend forever?**', you say **[Bottom Line] 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever.'** Ready? **Who wants to be your friend forever? [Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Yay! Jesus is alive! **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

3. Jesus Is Alive Kite

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: "Jesus Is Alive Kite" and "Jesus Kite Round Sticker" Activity Pages; cardstock; Avery® #5294 labels or equivalent; crayons; stickers; crepe paper streamers; scissors; glue sticks; and permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Jesus Is Alive Kite" onto cardstock and cut out, one per child. Copy "Jesus Kite Label" on label paper, one per child. Cut streamers into 12-inch lengths, two or three per child. Write child's name on their kite.

During the Activity: Encourage children to decorate their kites with crayons and stickers. Add the Jesus sticker to the kite then have children glue the streamers to the tail of their kite.

After the Activity: Review the Bible story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hello, friends! Today is Easter! It’s a very special day! Our Bible story tells about God’s love for us. God’s love for us is higher than the highest mountain—higher than a kite can fly. God’s love is bigger and wider than we can even hold. God’s love goes deeper than the deepest ocean.”

During the Activity: “Let’s make a kite! Use the crayons and stickers to decorate your kite any way you want. *(Pause.)* Super-duper! Now add the sticker of Jesus to your kite. *(Pause.)* Great! Now all we need to do is add the tails to the kite. Glue the streamers to the bottom point of the kite. *(Pause.)* Now you have a super special kite.”

After the Activity: “One night, Jesus was having dinner with his very best friends. He told them He had to go away but that He would come back. After dinner, Jesus went to the garden to pray, and some angry people came and took Him away. They hurt Jesus, and He died. Jesus’ friends were so sad. They put Jesus’ body in a tomb with a big stone in front of it.

“Three sad days went by. On the third day, when some of Jesus’ friends went to the tomb, they saw that the big stone had been rolled away. Jesus was not there. Jesus had come back, just like He said He would. Jesus is alive! Be happy today because it’s Easter and Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? [Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**”

