



WEEK
TWO
NOVEMBER 2021

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



FRIEND TO FRIEND

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Divide the children into pairs.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to do the

following activities with their partner or friend: foot to foot, back to back, elbow to elbow, and knee to knee. Invite the children to switch "friends" and repeat activity.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to do some fun movements, but we all need a friend to do them with." (*Divide children into pairs.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Awesome! We all have friends to do our movements with. First, let's do foot to foot. Sit on your bottoms and put your feet in the air, then place your feet on your friend's feet. Just like this. (*Demonstrate and do activity.*) Way to go! Now, let's do back to back. Put your back against your friend's back. I'm so glad we have our friends to help us with this! Keep going. (*Continue activity.*) Great job! Now, let's do it again with a different friend!" (*Finish activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Way to go! That was so much fun! I love doing things with friends. Today in our Bible story, we'll hear how we can thank God for our friends."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by holding hands with a friend as you walk to the story area.

BIBLE STORY

I can thank God
for my friends.

DAVID AND JONATHAN
1 SAMUEL 18:1-4

MEMORY VERSE

"I will give thanks to the Lord
with my whole heart."

PSALM 111:1, ESV

KEY QUESTION

Who can you thank
for everything?

BOTTOM LINE

I can thank God for
everything.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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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



GOOD FRIEND BRAINSTORM

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Butcher paper, marker, and wall tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the butcher paper on the table. Encourage the children to gather around the table.

BIBLE STORY

I can thank God
for my friends.

DAVID AND JONATHAN
1 SAMUEL 18:1-4

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask for the children to answer the question, "What makes a good friend?" Write down their answers on the butcher paper.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: If possible, tape the butcher paper on the wall in your hallway for parents to see at pick-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come to the table with me!"

MEMORY VERSE

"I will give thanks to the Lord
with my whole heart."

PSALM 111:1, ESV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Tell me, what makes a good friend? I will write your answers on the page. (If none of the following answers are given, add them to the paper.) That's right! A good friend is kind. A good friend uses nice words. A good friend hugs. A good friend shares."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "I am SO thankful God gave us good, good friends! **I can thank God for everything. Who can you thank for everything? I can thank God for everything.**"

KEY QUESTION

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for everything?

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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 to take home



HAIRY HARRY

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

*Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (from "Other Resources" on the Website) and post it at the door to your room.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Hairy Harry Label" Activity Page; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; "Allergy Alert Poster;"

cardstock; googly-eye stickers; clear punch cups; potting soil; grass seed; garden spades; gardening or plastic gloves; masking tape; and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Hairy Harry Label" on label paper, one per child. Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock and post at the door. Write each child's name on a piece of masking tape and place on the bottom of a cup.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children add eyes and the label to their cup. Then encourage children to fill the cup with dirt then sprinkle some grass seed on the dirt.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how God gives us friends.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! We're learning that we can thank God for everything. And like we heard in our story, we can thank God for our friends. Let's make a friend to take home."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "This is a friend that will grow! Add two googly-eye stickers to your cup. (Pause.) Add your label on the other side. (Pause.) Great! Now put some gloves on and scoop soil into your cup. Fill it almost to the top. (Pause.) Super! Last thing is to sprinkle grass seed on the top and pat them down. (Pause.) When you take your friend home, you'll need to give it a little water and put it where it can get sunlight."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today's Bible story was about two friends named David and Jonathan. David was a shepherd and Jonathan was the king's son. They loved spending time together. They ate together and walked together. One time, Jonathan was so thankful for his friend, David, that he took off his coat and gave it to him. Then he gave him his sword, his bow, and even his belt! David was so thankful God gave him Jonathan to be his good friend. We can thank God for our friends, too! **Who can you thank for everything? I can thank God for everything.**"

BIBLE STORY

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for my friends.

DAVID AND JONATHAN
1 SAMUEL 18:1-4

MEMORY VERSE

"I will give thanks to the Lord
with my whole heart."

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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



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Psalm 111:1, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll hop like bunny rabbits through a garden.

Follow me little bunny friends, and let's hop to it! (Name the garden vegetables you pretend to hop over as you lead the children to your small group spot.) That was some great hopping little bunny friends! 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 in front of the children.)

BIBLE STORY

I can thank God for my friends.

DAVID AND JONATHAN
1 SAMUEL 18:1-4

"Today's Bible story was about two very good friends named David and Jonathan. Jonathan wanted to show David that he was thankful they were friends. He did it by sharing.

MEMORY VERSE

"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart."

"We can show our friends that we are thankful for them, too. We can share our stuff, say kind words, and help our friends when they need it. And every time we share, say kind words, and help others, we are thanking God for our friends, too. You can thank God for your friends, because you can thank God for everything. **Who can you thank for everything?"**

PSALM 111:1, ESV

CHILDREN AND SGL: "I can thank God for everything."

KEY QUESTION

Who can you thank for everything?

SGL: "You sure can! And the Bible verse we're learning will help us remember to thank God with our whole heart. It says . . . (Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.) 'I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,' Psalm 111:1. (Close Bible and lay it down.)

"Let's stand up and say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

BOTTOM LINE

I can thank God for everything.

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'I will give thanks (thumbs to chest) to the Lord (point up) with my whole heart (hands over heart),' Psalm 111:1." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

SGL: "Fantastic! (Clap.) Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"Jonathan was thankful for his friend, David, and David was thankful for his friend, Jonathan. Today, we'll make a list of friends we are thankful for. I want you to think of one friend you are thankful for. When I say your name, tell me your friend's name, and I will write it in our prayer journal. (Say each child's



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(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"Look at all of your friends' names! Let's pray and thank God for each of them. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

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

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, Thank You for our friends. Thank You for [child's name] and their friend, [friend's name]. Thank You for . . . *(continue to name each child and their friends)*. And thank You so, SO much that Jesus wants to be our friend forever. Please help us be a good friend by sharing, saying kind words, and helping others. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

