



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves people
even when they
do something wrong.

ZACCHAEUS
LUKE 19:1-10

MEMORY VERSE

"Do everything in love."

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.

Heart Jump
Patterns
Coin Collecting

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Everyone Everywhere" and "I'm Gonna Tell"

Bible Story
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.

Climb Up
Going to Zac's House
Good Choice, Bad Choice
Musical Hearts
Heart Lei
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)
Parent Cue App



10 MINUTES

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at 1 Corinthians 16:14, NIV. You need a music player and this month's worship song, "Everyone Everywhere," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video for "Everyone Everywhere" is available on the *Very Big Things* Dance Moves DVD, on OrangeKidsMusic.com, or in your media package if you subscribe. You also need "I'm Gonna Tell," which is available on the Love Like Jesus CD, iTunes®, and Spotify®. The dance moves video for this song is available on the *Love Like Jesus* Dance Moves DVD and OrangeKidsMusic.com.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Guess what time it is? It's WORSHIP time! This is your chance to show God how much you love Him. We can sing and dance and shout together! Do you remember our song for this month? It's all about Jesus' big love for us. Tell me, **who does Jesus love?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "**Jesus loves everyone.**"

WORSHIP LEADER: "You've got it! Jesus loves everyone, everywhere so let's sing this out!

Lead children in singing "Everyone Everywhere," this month's worship song.

"No matter who you are, no matter where you are, **Jesus loves everyone** around the world! And because **Jesus loves everyone**, we can share that love with others! The Bible teaches us to 'Do everything in love,' 1 Corinthians 16:14. Say that with me."

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "'Do everything (*march in place*) in love' (*hug yourself*), 1 Corinthians 16:14." (*Open hands like a book.*)

WORSHIP LEADER: "Great! Did you know that **Jesus wants to be my friend forever?** He does! He LOVES you, so much. And because He loves us, we should tell everybody. He's the reason we keep singing every day! So, let's do that right now.

Lead children in singing "I'm Gonna Tell."

"I want the world to know about Jesus' love! I'm so glad that Jesus loves me and you! **Jesus loves everyone.** Thanks for worshipping with me today, friends."



WEEK
THREE
FEBRUARY 2022

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Decorated party table from previous weeks, and a cake carrier or box with frosted cupcakes

WHAT YOU DO: Preset the decorated party table in the storytelling area if not already there. Press the top of the cake carrier or box onto the cupcakes to cause the frosting to stick, ruining the cupcakes then set the carrier or box on the table.

The Host walks out smiling really big.

HOST: "Hello, everyone! I'm [your name]. My friends and I are having a party, and my friend, [friend's name], is in charge of the cupcakes.

Looks at the carrier or box on the table.

"My friend said they're all ready to go! I can't wait to see them! Are you ready? Count to three with me."

CHILDREN AND HOST: "One, two, THREE!"

HOST: (opening lid) "Tah dah! (Gape at cupcakes in horror.) OH NO!"

Pick up a cupcake from the box to show the children.

"All of the frosting fell off! It's all on the lid. My friend must have dropped them and not told anyone. These cupcakes are RUINED! This is terrible. This is AWFUL. What are we going to do? We can't have a party without awesome cupcakes! I can't believe this happened!"

"I'm so upset. I think I need a minute."

The Host exits, leaving cupcakes behind.

BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Five large play dollar bills and a Bible; *Optional Story Images*

The storyteller enters carrying a Bible and the play money

STORYTELLER: "Hello, everyone! I'm [your name], and I'm here to tell you a TRUE story from the Bible. Are you ready to hear it? If so, say, 'I'm ready!'"

CHILDREN: "I'm ready!"

STORYTELLER: "This true story from the Bible begins with a man named Zacchaeus. That's a fun name to say. Can you say it with me?"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Zacchaeus."

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STORYTELLER: "Zacchaeus was a tax collector. His job was to collect money from everyone in town.

Walk into the audience and hand the five dollar bills to an adult or student volunteer.

"So, let's say you owe three dollars for taxes. *(to the volunteer)* Go ahead and count out three dollars for your tax payment and hand it to me. Friends, you can count along. One, two, three!"

Volunteer counts out with the children and hands three bills to the Storyteller.

"The problem was, Zacchaeus would take MORE than you owed for taxes. *(to the volunteer)* What do you have left? Two dollars. I'll take that, too.

Take the other two dollars from the volunteer and put in your pocket.

"That's what Zacchaeus did day after day. He took MORE money that he was supposed to and kept it for himself! It was wrong. And it made everyone really mad at Zacchaeus.

"But one day, something wonderful happened. Jesus came to town! Everyone was so excited to see Him. Zacchaeus was excited, too. But there was one problem. Zacchaeus was too short to see Jesus over all the people. Maybe Zacchaeus could jump and see Jesus. Stand up, and let's see how high we can jump. Ready? One, two, three, JUMP!"

"That wouldn't work. Zacchaeus couldn't jump high enough to see Jesus. If only there was something Zacchaeus could climb to see over all the people. What could Zacchaeus climb? Do you know? *(Pause.)* A tree! Yes, Zacchaeus could climb a tree. Everyone, climb a tree just like Zacchaeus.

Lead children to pantomime climbing a tree.

"Climb, climb, climb! Great job! You can have a seat.

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"Now Zacchaeus could see Jesus. And Jesus could see Zacchaeus. And when He saw him, Jesus said, 'Zacchaeus! Come down right away. I want to go to your house today.' The people thought, 'Why would Jesus want to go with HIM? He has made SO many bad choices.'

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"Let me ask you a question. Do you think there is anything we can do to make Jesus stop loving us? *(Smile.)* No. Even if we get put in timeout, does Jesus still love us? *(Pause.)* Yes!

"Jesus loves us, no matter what. And Jesus loved Zacchaeus even though he had made bad choices.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 04)



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10 MINUTES

Zacchaeus was SO happy that Jesus loved him and was his friend that he gave back all the money he took from the people! Wow! Jesus loved Zacchaeus, and Jesus loves you, too. **Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love?**

CHILDREN: "Jesus loves everyone."

STORYTELLER: "Yes! **Jesus loves everyone.** Jesus loves us when we mess up. Jesus loves us, NO matter what. Okay friends, let's pray. Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "God, thank You for sending Jesus. Jesus loved Zacchaeus even though he made bad choices! Thank You for the truth that Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

"Thanks for being awesome, friends. See you later!"

The Storyteller exits with the Bible and play money.

OUTRO SKETCH

What You Need: Cupcakes from Intro Sketch and plastic knife

The Host enters, smiling and carrying the plastic knife.

HOST: "Wow! Jesus still loved Zacchaeus even though he made bad choices. **Jesus loves everyone!** I think I got the story. If you got it, say, 'Got it!' Get it?"

CHILDREN: "Got it!"

HOST: "Good! [Friend's name] is my friend. And even though the cupcakes are messed up, I know Jesus loves [friend's name] and I love [him/her], too! (Look at the cupcakes.) You know, I think I can fix these!"

Start reapplying frosting with the knife.

"I can put the frosting back on! Yes! See you next time, friends."

Host exits with the cupcakes.