



WEEK  
**THREE**  
FEBRUARY 2022

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      GROUPS      HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

## MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



## PATTERNS

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Patterns" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Patterns" on cardstock and cut on dotted lines, one set per activity.

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves people even when they do something wrong.

**ZACCHAEUS**  
**LUKE 19:1-10**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Place all of the cutouts in random order on a table. Call out a pattern. For example: leaf, heart, leaf. Challenge the children to use the cut outs to make the pattern on the table. Call out several more patterns for the children to make. Patterns to use: heart, leaf, heart; leaf, leaf, heart; heart, heart, leaf; leaf, heart, leaf, heart; and heart, leaf, heart, leaf.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's work together to make patterns. (*Point to the cards.*) There are pictures of leaves and hearts! We can make so many different patterns with these!"

## MEMORY VERSE

"Do everything in love."

**1 CORINTHIANS 16:14, NIV**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Our first pattern is leaf, heart, leaf. Can you make that pattern? (*Pause.*) First we need a leaf, then a heart, then another leaf. (*Do activity.*) Great job! You did it! Let's see if we can make more patterns." (*Continue and finish activity.*)

## KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Great job! Hearts remind me of love and leaves remind me of trees! Today, we'll hear a Bible story about someone who climbed a tree. Our Bible story sounds so exciting!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to climb a tree as you walk to the story area.

## BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

## BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.





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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



## GOING TO ZAC'S HOUSE

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Zac's House Full Page," "Zac's House Cards," and "Zac's House Parent Note" Activity Pages; cardstock; scissors; and plastic zipper bags

### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Zac's House Full Page"

on cardstock, one set per activity. Copy "Zac's House Cards" on cardstock and cut apart, one set per child. Copy "Zac's House Parent Note" on cardstock, one per child.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Invite the children to sit in front of you. You will have a set of four full Zac's House story pictures. Give each child a smaller, matching set of story cards. Put the story pictures in order for the children to see as you review the Bible story (*lay them on the floor, tape them to the wall, or whatever works best for you*). Ask the children to follow along by putting their story cards in order as well.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Talk about how Jesus loved Zacchaeus even though he had done something wrong. Send the story cards home with each child in a plastic bag along with a "Zac's House Parent Note."

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Hi, friends! Come sit with me. We're going to talk about today's Bible story using these story pictures!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "First, I want each of you to have your own set of story cards. (*Give each child a set of story cards.*) Hold your cards and listen closely so you can put your cards in order with me.

"In our Bible story, there was a large crowd of people. (*Hold up page with the large crowd.*) Everyone wanted to see Jesus! Look for this card and put it in front of you.

"A man named Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he was too short to see over all of the people. What did Zacchaeus do? (*Hold up page with Zacchaeus in a tree.*) Yes! Zacchaeus climbed a tree so he could see Jesus! Look for this card and put it beside your crowd picture.

"When Jesus walked by, He saw Zacchaeus in the tree. (*Hold up page of Jesus smiling up at Zacchaeus.*) What did Jesus tell Zacchaeus? (*Pause.*) Yes! Jesus wanted to go to Zacchaeus' house! Look for this card and put it beside your picture of Zacchaeus in the tree.

"Zacchaeus quickly came down and took Jesus to his house. (*Hold up page*

## 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

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*of Jesus at Zacchaeus' house.)* All of the people wondered why Jesus wanted to be friends with Zacchaeus. He had done wrong things and taken more money from the people than he was supposed to take. Lots and lots and LOTS of people went to Zacchaeus' house to see what would happen. Do you remember what happened?

"Zacchaeus was SO happy that **Jesus loves everyone** that he wanted to love everyone, too. So Zacchaeus gave all the people their money back, then he gave them even more money! It was a very happy, happy day—like a party!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Jesus loved Zacchaeus and wanted to be his friend even though he had done something wrong because **Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone.** Yay! **Jesus loves everyone!**"





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## MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



## GOOD CHOICE, BAD CHOICE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed.

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Gather the children to sit in your activity area. Encourage them to spread out a bit.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves people even when they do something wrong.

**ZACCHAEUS**  
**LUKE 19:1-10**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Explain to the children that you will read a list of choices. If they think it's a good choice, they will stand up. If it's a bad choice, they will sit down. Call out the choices from the lists below in any order so that the children sit and stand alternately.

Good Choices:

- You listened to your mom.
- You helped in the kitchen.
- You played with your baby brother.
- You let your friend go first.
- You used kind words.
- You called your grandma.

Bad Choices:

- You used unkind words.
- You made a mess and didn't clean it up.
- You ate a cookie without asking permission.
- You pushed your brother.
- You took a toy from another friend.
- You pitched a big fit when your mom said it was time for bed.

### MEMORY VERSE

"Do everything in love."

**1 CORINTHIANS 16:14, NIV**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, sit here with me! Let's spread out so we don't touch other friends."

### KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "I will call out a choice. Some choices are good, and some are bad choices. If it's a good choice, I want you to stand up. If it's a bad choice, I want you to sit down. Ready? Let's go."

### BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Great listening, friends. We all make good choices and bad choices. Just like Zacchaeus from our Bible story, sometimes we make bad choices that we know are wrong. But Jesus still loved Zacchaeus. That's because **Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone.**"

### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.





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## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



## JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at 1 Corinthians 16:14; journal; and fun-shaped pen

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to look for Jesus the way

Zacchaeus did when he was in that tree. Put your hand over your eyes like this (*demonstrate*), and let's look while we walk. (*Pretend to look for Jesus as you lead the children to your small group spot.*)

"You did a great job of looking! 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.*)

"Zacchaeus was SO happy when Jesus loved him and wanted to be his friend even though he had done something wrong. And Zacchaeus isn't the only one who is glad. I am, too! I am SO glad that **Jesus loves everyone**, even when we do something wrong. **Who does Jesus love?**"

**CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus loves everyone!"**

**SGL:** "And because **Jesus loves everyone**, Zacchaeus wanted to love everyone, too. That's why he gave back all of the money he had taken from the people. It was his way of doing everything in love like it says in the Bible verse we're learning. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'Do everything in love,' 1 Corinthians 16:14. (*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."

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

(*Repeat the verse with motions a few times.*)

**SGL:** "Wow! You sound fantastic! (*Give fist bumps.*) Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*) Since **Jesus loves everyone** even when we do something wrong, today we'll make a list of wrong things we have done. Everyone has done wrong things, but **Jesus loves everyone**, anyway!

"Okay, when I say your name, tell me one wrong thing you've done. I'll write it in our prayer journal. Maybe you didn't share or you got angry and screamed or you didn't obey your parents. Whatever it is, we can use our list when we pray to thank God for sending Jesus to love us, no matter what. (*Say each child's*

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## (JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

*name and write down what they say. Be sure to mention something you've done wrong so they know no one is perfect. Remember to print the words so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

"Thank you for making this list with me. Now let's pray. 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 sending Jesus to love us, even when we do something wrong. When we've done things like *(read the list you and the children made)*, Jesus still loves us. Help us remember that **Jesus loves everyone** so we can love everyone, too. In Jesus' name, amen."

