



WEEK  
**ONE**  
MARCH 2022

LARGE GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS  
STAGE

PRELUDE SOCIAL **WORSHIP** STORY GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus says, "Follow me."

**ANDREW & PETER;  
JOHN & JAMES  
MATTHEW 4:18-22;  
LUKE 5:1-11**

## MEMORY VERSE

"Come and follow me,"  
Jesus said."

**MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV**

## KEY QUESTION

Who can be friends  
with Jesus?

## BOTTOM LINE

Everyone can be  
friends with Jesus.

## BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be  
my friend forever.

## 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 Matthew 4:19, NIRV. You need a music player and this month's worship song, "Wherever He Goes," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video for "Wherever He Goes" is available on OrangeKidsMusic.com or in your media package if you subscribe. You also need "My Forever Friend," which is available on the *Very Big Things* album, iTunes®, Spotify®, and OrangeKidsMusic.com. The dance moves video for this song is available on OrangeKidsMusic.com.

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Hello, everyone! I'm SO glad to see you today. It's time to worship. Let's stand up and sing and dance to show God just how much we LOVE Him. God sent Jesus to be our friend forever! **Everyone can be friends with Jesus.** When I ask, 'Who can be friends with Jesus?', you say, 'Everyone can be friends with Jesus.' **Who can be friends with Jesus?**"

**CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER:** "Everyone can be friends with Jesus."

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Yes! It's true. We can follow Jesus, the best friend ever. Sing this with me.

*Lead children in singing "Wherever He Goes," this month's worship song.*

"That was awesome! When we don't know the way to go, we can follow Jesus because He's the BEST friend. **Who can be friends with Jesus?**"

**CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER:** "Everyone can be friends with Jesus."

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "That's right! **Everyone can be friends with Jesus.** The Bible teaches us "'Come and follow me," Jesus said,' Matthew 4:19. Let's learn our memory verse together. Are you ready? Listen to me say it and do the motions, then you can do it with me! "'Come (motion towards self) and follow me," (march) Jesus said,' (hands by mouth) Matthew 4:19. (Open hands like a book.)

*Lead children to repeat the verse and motions with you.*

"Great! We'll repeat that verse all month long! Jesus is a good, good friend! I wanna be like Him. Let's sing that together.

*Lead children in singing "My Forever Friend."*



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"Jesus is never gonna let us go. I'm so GLAD to know that **Jesus wants to be my friend forever**. One more time, **who can be friends with Jesus?**"

**CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER:** "Everyone can be friends with Jesus."

## INTRO SKETCH

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Big trunk with a lock, key, pair of cowboy boots, tap shoes, slippers, and rain boots

**WHAT YOU DO:** Place all shoes inside the trunk, close it, and preset it in the storytelling area.

*The Host enters, carrying the key.*

**HOST:** "Hello there, friends! I'm [your name]! My dad and I were at a yard sale and found this SUPER cool trunk; but it was locked and there wasn't a key. We bought it without even knowing what was inside. I just found this key that might work."

*Hold up the key.*

"Do you think we should see if it works? (Pause.) Okay! We'll all say, 'One, two, three, open please!'"

**HOST AND CHILDREN:** "One, two, three, open please!"

*Place key in the lock and turn or pretend to turn it.*

**HOST:** "It worked. Now we have to open the lid. Everyone, do a drumroll on your legs like this."

*Demonstrate a drumroll, then open the lid.*

"Here we go!"

*Look inside and grab the cowboy boots.*

"Wow! This is awesome. Look—SHOES! There are all kinds of shoes in here. There are cowboy boots. Giddy up!"

*Pull out the tap shoes.*

"Oohh! Do you know what these are? (Put the shoes on the ground or table to make them tap.) These are tap shoes for tap dancing. That's so cool."

*Pull out the slippers.*

"There are even shoes to wear before bed. I bet these are super comfy."

*Take off your shoes and put on the slippers.*

"I think I'll try these out. See you later, friends!"

*The Host places the shoes back in the trunk, closes the lid, and exits, wearing the slippers and carrying their shoes.*



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## BIBLE STORY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bible, fishing net, "Think" from Jeopardy! sound effect; *Optional Story Images*

*The storyteller enters carrying Bible and fishing net.*

**STORYTELLER:** "Friends, I'm so glad to see you here today! I'm [your name], and I have an awesome amazing, totally wonderful, completely TRUE story to share from the Bible!

*Hold up the Bible.*

"Today's true story from the Bible begins with two fishermen named Peter and Andrew. What were their names?"

**CHILDREN:** "Peter and Andrew!"

*(Option: Display Story Image W1 01)*

**STORYTELLER:** "You've got it! Peter and Andrew were fishermen. They would use a big net when they went fishing.

*Hold up the net.*

"I have this net up here with me, but I want you pretend to throw out your own net just like a fisherman. Ready? Set? THROW!

*Throw out the net in front of you as children pantomime the same motion.*

"Great job! Once your net is in the water, you have to be really still (*whispering*) and quiet. And wait for the fish.

**SFX:** "Think" from Jeopardy!

*(as music ends)* "WHOA! Look at all those fish. Time to pull up your net. Ready? Set? Pull!

*Pull up your net as the children pantomime pulling up theirs.*

"One more time. PULL! We did it! We went fishing, just like the fishermen did. So, Peter and Andrew were fishermen, and they fished every day.

*(Option: Display Story Image W1 02)*

"One day, Jesus walked by. They knew who Jesus was. They knew He was special and an amazing teacher. Jesus looked at them and said, 'Come follow me.'

"Wow! Jesus, God's Son, wanted to be friends with the fishermen! He wanted them to follow Him. Andrew and Peter were SO excited that they left their nets . . .

*Drop your fishing net to the floor and walk to the side of your storytelling area.*



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" . . . and started following Jesus right then and there!

(Option: Display Story Image W1 03)

"Later, Jesus saw two MORE fishermen named James and John. What were their names?"

**CHILDREN:** "James and John."

**STORYTELLER:** "That's right! James and John were in a boat fishing with their dad when Jesus saw them. He said, 'Come follow me!' Do you think they left their nets behind to follow Jesus? If you do, say, 'Oh, yeah!'"

**CHILDREN:** "Oh, yeah!"

(Option: Display Story Image W1 04)

**STORYTELLER:** "Yes! Jesus wanted to be friends with them, too! They were SO happy that they got out of their boat and followed Jesus. Those four fishermen, (count off on your fingers) Peter, Andrew, James, and John followed Jesus and became some of His really good friends called the disciples!

"And do you know what the best part is? Jesus wants to be friends with YOU, too. Jesus wants to be friends with everyone. We can all follow Him. That's amazing. When I ask, '**Who can be friends with Jesus?**', you can say, '**Everyone can be friends with Jesus!**' Ready? **Who can be friends with Jesus?**"

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER:** "**Everyone can be friends with Jesus!**"

**STORYTELLER:** "Yes, it's true! **Everyone can be friends with Jesus!**"

"Okay friends, it's time to pray. Let's close our eyes and thank God for sending Jesus to be our friend."

## PRAYER

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, thank You for Peter, Andrew, James, and John who chose to follow Jesus. Thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. And DOUBLE thank You that we can all follow Him, too. You are awesome. We LOVE You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

"Thank you for being super-awesome, friends. I'll see you next time. Bye!"

*The Storyteller exits with the Bible and the net.*

## OUTRO SKETCH

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Slippers and trunk of shoes from Intro Sketch

*The Host enters, wearing the slippers.*

**HOST:** "Wow! Jesus told lots of people to follow Him. He wants to be friends with everyone, all the time. I think I got the story. Did you get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?"



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**CHILDREN:** "Got it!"

**HOST:** "Good! I wonder what others shoes I can find."

*Rummage through the trunk and pull out the rain boots.*

"Oohh! These are fun! See ya next time friends."

*Host exits with the rain boots while waving to the children.*