



WEEK
THREE
MARCH 2022

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Everyone can be friends with Jesus.

THE TWELVE THE GOSPELS

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: “Hey, friends! Do you know what time it is? It’s WORSHIP time! We’ve been learning this month that **Everyone can be friends with Jesus**. Isn’t that awesome? I think Jesus deserves all of our worship and praise because He’s the BEST. Let’s stand up and sing our song for this month, ‘Wherever He Goes.’”

Lead children in singing “Wherever He Goes,” this month’s worship song.

“I wanna go wherever He goes because Jesus will always lead me in the right direction! Remember, **Jesus wants to be my friend forever**. And He wants to be your friend, too! Tell me, **who can be friends with Jesus?**”

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: “Everyone can be friends with Jesus.”

WORSHIP LEADER: “You’ve got it. The Bible teaches us to ‘Come and follow me,’ Jesus said,’ Matthew 4:19. Let’s learn our memory verse together. Are you ready? Say it with me! ‘Come (motion towards self) and follow me,’ (march) Jesus said,’ (hands around mouth) Matthew 4:19. (Open hands like a book.)”

“We can follow Jesus! Jesus is my friend forever! He’s a good, He’s a good, He’s a good, good friend. Sing it out with me.

Lead children in singing “My Forever Friend.”

“Jesus is always with me. He’s never gonna let me go! Thanks, friends!”



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INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Trunk from previous weeks; largest pair of men's shoes you can find; tiny pair of baby shoes; pair of gardening clogs or shoes; pair of men's hiking boots; and pair of shoes that fit the Host

WHAT YOU DO: Place the shoes in the trunk and preset the trunk in storytelling area.

The Host, very excited, walks out smiling.

HOST: "Hello there, friends! I'm [your name]. My friends and I are having SO much fun with all the cool shoes in this trunk.

Rummage around to find the large pair of men's shoes.

"Whoa! These are really big. I bet they'd fit my very, very tall Uncle Zeke. He's the tallest person I know!

Place them back in the trunk and pull out the tiny baby shoes.

"Ohhh, these are so cute. *(in a baby voice)* These are so teensy-weensy tiny that only a whittle bitty baby could wear them. *(Shake head as if talking to a baby.)* Yes, they could. Yes, they could. Goo-goo, ga-ga!

Realize baby talk has a gone a bit too far and clear throat. Return baby shoes to the trunk and pull out the gardening clogs.

"Wait! I wonder if Ms. Kathy Sue next door could wear these in her garden? These look like her size! She would probably love these.

Put the gardening clogs back in the trunk and pull out the hiking boots.

"And these are big enough for my dad! He loves to hike. So fun.

Put the hiking boots back in the trunk and pull out the shoes for the Host.

"Oh, hey! I think these will fit me! Whoo-hoo! I'll go try them on and see. Later, friends!"

The Host closes the lid to the trunk then exits, carrying the shoes. Trunk is left behind.

BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Table, 12 action figures, and a Bible; *Optional Story Images*

WHAT YOU DO: Preset the table in your storytelling area, out of the way of Intro Sketch and Worship.

The storyteller enters carrying a Bible.

STORYTELLER: "Hello, everyone! I'm so glad to be with you today! I'm [your name], and I'm here to share a TRUE story from the Bible. Are you ready to hear it? *(Pause.)* Awesome.



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Begin to stand the action figures in a row in the center of the table.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 01)

"This true story from the Bible is about Jesus' twelve friends who followed Him. Their names were Peter, Andrew, James, John, the other James, Matthew, Phillip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Judas, Thaddeus, and Simon. They were twelve of Jesus' closest friends. They were His disciples, and they followed Him. Let's learn about these twelve friends.

Pick up the first two figures and move them to the front edge of the table.

"Peter and Andrew were brothers.

Pick up the next two and move them to the front edge of the table.

"And there was also James and John. All four of these men were fishermen. Let's see, we need Matthew.

Pick up the next action figure and move to the edge of the table.

"Matthew was a tax collector and collect money. They were all very different, right?

Begin moving the remaining action figures to the edge of the table.

"They all came from different places and had different families. But you know what? They were ALL friends with Jesus! And when Jesus said, 'Follow me,' they all said, 'Yes!' They followed Jesus to so many places and saw Him be a friend to everyone.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 02)

"Jesus was a friend to people who were sick. He even made some better.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 03)

"Jesus was a friend to people who were hungry, and He gave them food.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 04)

"Jesus was a kind and loving friend to children, and He listened to them. So, when Jesus went away, His friends went everywhere, telling everyone that they can be friends with Jesus. We can tell our friends that they can be friends with Jesus, too. Tell me, **who can be friends with Jesus?**"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Everyone can be friends with Jesus."

STORYTELLER: "Who can be friends with Jesus?"

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



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STORYTELLER: "That's right, friends! Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "God, thanks for sending Jesus. Thank You for these twelve friends who followed Him then told everyone that Jesus wanted to be their friend! Thanks for reminding us that Jesus wants to be OUR friend, too. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

"Thanks for being such great listeners, friends. I'll see you next time. Bye!"

The Storyteller exits with the Bible and action figures.

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Shoes for Host from Intro Sketch

The Host enters, smiling and wearing the shoes found in the trunk earlier.

HOST: "Friends, LOOK! (*Point to shoes.*) I tried them on, and they fit! So awesome! And you know what else is awesome? Our Bible story today. Jesus told so many different people to follow Him. And He wants all of us to be His friends, too! I think I got the story. If you got the story, touch your shoes and say, 'Got it! Get it!'"

CHILDREN: "Got it!"

HOST: "Good! I'm so glad these shoes fit, because they are FAST! I can run and tell all of my friends that Jesus wants to be friends with everyone! See you later."

Host exits quickly, while waving to the children.