



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose gentleness.

JESUS AND THE LITTLE CHILDREN
MARK 10:13-16

MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.'"

JOHN 14:6, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can help you do everything?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can help me do everything.

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.

- Gentle Walk
- Feather Sorting
- Gentle, Not Gentle

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Love Like Jesus" and "My Forever Friend"


- 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.

- Gentle Verse
- Stop and Go
- Be VERY Gentle 
- Gentle Race
- Gentle Painting
- Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.



10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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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.

NOTE: Kids and leaders will need a Feather Story Sticker from the "Feather Story Stickers" Activity Page to participate in the story. Consider handing these out as small groups enter the Large Group environment.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at John 14:6, NIV. You need a music player and this month's worship song, "Love Like Jesus," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video for "Love Like Jesus" 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 on iTunes®, Spotify®, and at OrangeKidsMusic.com. The dance moves video for this song is available at OrangeKidsMusic.com.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Friends, I'm SO happy to see you today! We've been having so much fun learning about following Jesus. Jesus is such a good, good friend. Let's sing and dance and say 'Thank you' to Jesus for loving us. Stand up and sing this out with me.

Lead children in singing "Love Like Jesus," this month's worship song.

"I love that song! With Jesus' help, we can love others! With Jesus' help, we can do everything! **Who can help you do everything?"**

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "Jesus can help me do everything."

WORSHIP LEADER: "That's right! **Jesus can help me do everything!** The Bible teaches us that 'Jesus answered, (hands by mouth) "I am (point up) the way and the truth and the life,"' (march) John 14:6. (Open hands like a book.) Say it with me.

Lead the children to say the verse with the motions.

"Jesus is our forever friend! I know I can count on Him. Let's sing this together.

Lead children in singing "My Forever Friend."

"Remember, **Jesus wants to be my friend forever**, and Jesus will help you follow Him. One more time, **who can help you do everything?"**

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "Jesus can help me do everything."



WEEK
FOUR
JULY 2022

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: "Feather Story Stickers" Activity Page; Avery® #5294 labels or equivalent; small table; large beach bucket; painted rocks from June and previous July weeks; palm-sized rock; pink paint pen; baby doll; and a large artificial feather

Host enters, wearing a feather sticker in the middle of their shirt and carrying a large feather.

HOST: "Hi, friends! I'm [your name]. And I can't wait to tell you about my fantastic day! Are you ready for this? (excitedly) I got to hold my new baby cousin! And he is soooo little! Kind of like, like . . ."

Look around, find the baby doll and pick it up. Cradle it.

"Like this! I was so excited to hold him!"

Look at the baby doll and then lay it back down.

"But my aunt said I had to practice being gentle before I could hold my baby cousin. (Hold up the large feather.) And that's when she gave me this feather so I could practice being really, really gentle."

Cradle the feather very gently in both hands.

"I practiced holding the feather very gently, without hurting the feather. THEN, after I practiced being gentle, I got to hold my baby cousin for real!"

Put down the feather.

"My little baby cousin reached out his tiny little hand and grabbed hold of my finger so tight! It was awesome! Then my aunt said I could help give him a bath. I thought we would make super big waves to make him laugh."

Make big wave motions with your hands and arms.

"But my aunt said he's not big enough for big splashes yet. Big splashes are just too rough. I had to be super-gentle instead."

Make gentle, small wave motions with your hands and fingers.

"I'm glad I got to practice gentleness with the feather first. Now I know how to be gentle with my new baby cousin."

"Speaking of my baby cousin . . . I'm going to go see if I can find him! See you later! Bye!"

Host exits with the baby doll and feather, leaving the bucket of rocks.



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BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible; "Feather Story Sticker" for Storyteller; and table from Intro Sketch; *Optional Story Images*

Storyteller enters wearing a feather sticker and carrying a Bible.

STORYTELLER: "Well, hello there! I'm [your name]! Are you ready for a Bible story AND to play our sticker game? (Pause.) I think you are, because I see your feather stickers. See? I have one, too! (Point to the feather sticker.)

"Today, every time I say, 'GENTLE' or 'GENTLENESS,' I want us to point to our feather stickers. (Point to the feather sticker.) Do you remember what GENTLENESS (point to the feather sticker) is? (Pause.)

"GENTLENESS (point to the feather sticker) is being soft and kind with our words and actions so we don't hurt people. Okay, get ready for a story!

"Today's true story from the Bible . . . (Open the Bible and lay it on the table.) . . . begins with Jesus teaching a lot of people. It was VERY exciting!

(Option: Display Story Image W4 01)

"Everyone wanted to talk to Jesus. And listen to Jesus. And get as close as they could to Jesus.

"Lots of parents even brought their children to see Jesus! They wanted their children to be so close that Jesus could touch them. But as the little children went up to see Jesus, some of Jesus' friends told the little children to . . . (in stern voice) go away!

(Option: Display Story Image W4 02)

"Oh, no! That's not GENTLENESS! (Point to the feather sticker.)

"When Jesus heard His friends not being GENTLE (point to the feather sticker), Jesus chose GENTLENESS (point to the feather sticker) and told the disciples, 'Let the little children come to me.'

(Option: Display Story Image W4 03)

"Jesus let the children come right up to Him. He probably hugged them and was kind to them and talked to them and listened to them. Are all of those things GENTLE? (Point to the feather sticker.)

"Yes! And Jesus wants to help us be GENTLE (point to the feather sticker), too! Like when we're with a new baby, we need to choose GENTLENESS (point to feather sticker) with our hands and feet.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 04)

"Or when your friends are playing a game that you don't want to play, instead of shouting angry words, you can use choose GENTLENESS (point to the feather sticker) and say kind, soft words to ask them to play something else.

"We use GENTLE (point to the feather sticker) hands so we don't hurt a baby, and we use GENTLE (point to the



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP **STORY** GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES

feather sticker) words so we don't hurt our friends' feelings.

"Jesus can help us choose GENTLENESS (point to the feather sticker), because Jesus can help us do everything!
Who can help you do everything?"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Jesus can help me do everything!"

STORYTELLER: "Now say it in a GENTLE (point to the feather sticker) voice. **Who can help you do everything?**"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Jesus can help me do everything!"

STORYTELLER: "Okay friends, it's time to pray. Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to help us choose gentleness with our words and actions so we don't hurt people. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

"Thanks for listening, friends. I'll see you next time. Bye!"

The Storyteller exits with the Bible.

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Large feather and bucket of painted rocks from Intro Sketch

Host enters, wearing the feather sticker and carrying the large feather.

HOST: "Wow! Jesus was GENTLE (point to the feather sticker) and let the little children come to Him. Jesus can help me choose GENTLENESS (point to the feather sticker), too. And GENTLENESS (point to the feather sticker) can change the world!"

"I think I got the story. Did you get it? (Pause.) If you did, give me two thumbs-up (hold up two thumbs) and say, 'Got it!' (Pause.) Get it?"

CHILDREN AND HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: "Good!"

Lay the feather down by the bucket of rocks and notice the feather rock. Hold it up for the children to see.

"Oh, look! One of our painted rocks has a feather on it! This can remind us to choose GENTLENESS. (Point to the feather sticker.)

Set the rock on the table with the feather facing the children.

"See you next time!"

Host exits, waving to the children.